

Consultation Feedback

Feedback	Response
<p>I think the pre-sifting by only three people in a private meeting goes against all transparency we stand for, I believe we should revert back to the original rules where elected members make the decisions in full transparent meetings, the outcomes may well be similar but at least the public will have confidence that the members they elected can be held accountable for any decisions they make.</p>	<p>This comment relates to the conduct procedure, rather than the Code of Conduct itself which is not under consideration at this time.</p>
<p>2.1 You must comply with this Code whenever you act, claim to act or give the impression you are acting in your official capacity as a Member of the Authority. For example, members will be deemed to be acting in their official capacity if:</p> <p>they are talking in a Council meeting or public forum where they are there as part of their Councillor role.</p> <p>they are writing on an online forum that is open to the public (ie. a closed or private forum or private message thread is less likely to engage the Code of Conduct) and in which they have made it clear they are responding in their official capacity either by directly saying so, or by responding to a question about Council business in a way that suggests they are doing so.</p> <p>they are talking to a member of the electorate about matters which pertain to Council business.</p> <p>3.2 e. conduct yourself in a manner, which could reasonably be regarded as bringing your office or authority into disrepute. For example, behaviour that is considered criminal, dishonest and/or deceitful can bring your authority into disrepute together with false statements about council matters given to and published by the press. However, members may choose to, in their official capacity, civilly express their honestly and reasonably held views, and that is not a breach of the code of conduct provided that their comments are lawful – debate and disagreement do not bring the Council into disrepute, they are a necessary facet</p>	<p>Suggestions in bold incorporated into draft code of conduct.</p>

<p>of democracy. Members are however encouraged to raise their concerns via the most appropriate forum for dealing with them for instance by referring criminal matters to the police, reporting breaches of the Code to the Monitoring Officer and/or raising concerns about officers with their line manager.</p>	
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