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SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BOROUGH COUNCIL

Meeting of Standards Sub Committee

Date: Monday, 25th January, 2021

Place: Virtual Meeting - MS Teams

Present: Councillor C Nevin (Chair)
Councillors D Burzotta, B Hooper and Tetley

In Attendance: G Gilbert and R Harris
D Kitson (Bevan Brittan)

Start/End Time: 6.00 - 7.10 pm

1 Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence at this meeting.

2 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Hooper (Agenda Item 5: Complaint against a Councillor: Reference 20/012) – Non-pecuniary interest: Director of Blade Education (a not-for-profit company) which is involved with all schools in the Borough.

3 Exclusion of the Public

Resolved:

That, under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the items of business set out below on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act, and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

4 Complaint against a Councillor - Reference 19/006

The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Deputy Monitoring Officer presenting the investigation report concerning complaint reference 19/006 for consideration and decision on the next steps.

The Sub-Committee asked a number of questions which were responded to by the Deputy Monitoring Officer and the representative from Bevan Brittan. The Sub Committee sought and took into consideration the views of the independent person. The Sub-Committee also felt that it had been appropriate for the complaint to be brought forward and it was in the public interest for the complaint to be properly considered and investigated (as per the Sub-Committees recommendation on 18th June 2020).

Resolved:

That the Sub-Committee are satisfied with the Investigator's Report and no action is required.

5 Complaint against a Councillor - Reference 20/012

The Sub-Committee considered a report of the Deputy Monitoring Officer requesting that the Sub-Committee undertake an initial review and assessment of standards complaint reference 20/012 and determine the next steps.

The Sub-Committee asked a number of questions which were responded to by the Deputy Monitoring Officer and representative from Bevan Brittan. The Sub Committee sought and took into consideration the views of the independent person.

Resolved:

That the standards complaint reference 20/012 be referred for investigation.

Chair: _____