



Audit and Governance Committee
12 March 2025

15

Ethical Standards Annual Review 2024 – 25

Purpose of the report:

To update Committee on emerging issues relating to Members Standards and to monitor the operation of the Members' Code of Conduct, including complaints made concerning councillors, the declaration of gifts and hospitality and Interests over the course of the last year.

Recommendation:

That the Audit and Governance Committee:

1. Approves the revised Registration of Members' Interests form set out at Annex 3 for introduction in May 2025.
2. Notes the Monitoring Officer's report on recent activity in relation to the Members' Code of Conduct, including Registration of Interests and Gifts and Hospitality, and complaints made in relation to Member conduct.
3. Endorses the new approach to be taken in respect of the publication of Members' home address details on Register of Interest forms, whereby addresses will be kept confidential by default.

Introduction:

1. The Localism Act 2011 places the Council under a statutory duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by its Members and co-opted Members.
2. The Council has a Code of Conduct governing elected and co-opted Members' conduct, when acting in those capacities. The Code also includes provisions for the registration and disclosure of pecuniary and other interests.
3. The Council has delegated to the Audit and Governance Committee the roles of:
 - monitoring the operation of the Members' Code of Conduct and;

- promoting advice, guidance and training on matters relating to the Code of Conduct.
4. The Committee is also responsible for granting dispensations to Members relating to their disclosable pecuniary interests.
 5. The Council appointed Belinda Knight and Dean Spears as its new Independent Persons for a four-year term on 10 December 2024. They will each be paid a standard fee of £1,000 per annum.

Member Training

6. The Council has established a cross-party Member Development Steering Group which co-ordinates Member training and development this includes any training required on ethical standards. An annual report is presented to Council on Member Development activity; the most recent report was received on 19 March 2024.

Members' Allowances

7. In accordance with The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003, Surrey County Council makes an annual scheme for the payment of allowances to councillors. This scheme must include a basic allowance payable equally to all councillors and may include provision for Special Responsibility Allowances (SRAs). Regulation 19 of the legislation states that local authorities have a duty to have regard to recommendations from an Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) before a scheme can be amended. The IRP consists of three members who are independent of SCC or any political party.
8. In February 2024, the Council accepted the IRP's 2023 report recommending the indexing of Members' Allowances to the Consumer Price Index (CPI). An additional cap was applied at the average level of staff salary increase from the most recent staff pay award if it was lower than the CPI. In February 2025, Council agreed to a 1.7% increase in Members' Allowances, reflecting the 1.7% increase in the CPI in the 12 months to September 2024 (the average staff pay award for 2024-25 was 4.5%).

Code of Conduct Complaints

9. The Council received 15 complaints that a County Councillor had breached the Code of Conduct from 1 February 2024 to 31 January 2025. All complaints are, as a minimum, considered by the Monitoring Officer and by an Independent Person. As noted in paragraph 5 above, there are two Independent Persons and they are used in rotation.
10. Following consideration, the complaints were either resolved through informal resolution or did not meet the criteria for referral for formal investigation or were found to have not breached the Councillor Code of Conduct. Where informal action was merited this was taken, in the form of an apology or additional training, or the file was closed. The complaints are summarised in the table below:

Ref	Date complaint received	Complainant	Complaint	Independent Person Consulted	Date Closed	Status of complaint	Ombudsman
02/24	24/01/2024	Member of Public	Alleged cllr made false claims	Yes	28/05/2024	Closed - Not Upheld	
03/24	12/03/2024	Member of Public	Alleged data breach	Yes	15/04/2024	Closed - Not upheld	
04/24	31/03/2024	Member of Public	Service matter	No	-	Paused due to JR	
05/24	04/04/2024	Member of Public	Service matter	No	-	Paused due to JR	
06/24	May 2025	NA	NA – not a complaint	No	-	NA	
07/24	15/05/2024	Member of Public	Service matter	Yes	25/06/2024	Closed - Cllr sent an apology	
08/24	10/07/2024	County Councillor	Social Media Post	Yes	05/09/2024	Closed – Not Upheld	
09/24	18/07/2024	Member of Public	Social Media Post	Yes	05/09/2024	Closed – Not upheld	
10/24	12/08/2024	Member of Public	Election leaflets	No	14/08/2024	Closed	
11/24	25/08/2024	Member of Public	Delay in responding to emails	Yes	25/09/2024	Closed - Cllr sent an apology	
12/24	05/09/2024	NA	NA - Query	No	05/09/2024	Closed - query not a complaint	
13/24	07/10/2024	Member of Public	Misleading comments on social media	No	10/12/2024	Closed – no response from complainant	
14/24	15/10/2024	Member of Public (Borough Councillor)	Misleading comments on social media	Yes	27/11/2024	Closed – Not Upheld	Person raising the concern referred the matter to the LGO. – Not investigated as LGO “unlikely to find fault”
15/24	31/10/2024	Member of Public	Conduct following	Yes	02/12/2024	Closed – Not Upheld	

			committee meeting				
01/25	15/01/2025	Member of Public	Elections	No	16/01/2025	Closed – Not a Code of Conduct Complaint or matter for SCC	

Implications of the English Devolution White Paper – Standards Consultation

11. The Government published its English Devolution White Paper on 16 December 2024 and subsequently launched a consultation which ran from 18 December 2024 to 26 February 2025 on a number of proposals in relation to standards and councillor conduct: [Strengthening the standards and conduct framework for local authorities in England - GOV.UK](#)
12. The proposals consulted on included:
 - A mandatory code of conduct, to establish a higher minimum standard of expected behaviours and ensure consistency. The minimum requirements will be updated to reflect issues not covered in the original guidelines, including discrimination, bullying, and use of social media.
 - A requirement for all principal local authorities to convene formal Standards Committees to uphold and promote standards.
 - A role for a national body to deal with the most serious cases and appeals, as was the case under the previous system with the Standards Board for England
 - Powers to suspend – including imposing premises and facilities bans – to allow local authorities to enforce their own standards. This will include the ability for councils to address serious misconduct with powers to suspend councillors for a maximum of six months, and the option to withhold allowances where deemed appropriate.
 - Disqualification if subject to suspension more than once.
 - Potential immediate disqualification in certain instances of serious misconduct
 - Interim suspension whilst under investigation in serious cases (e.g. those involving protracted investigations or police matters such as alleged fraud or assault).
 - Publication of all code breach investigation outcomes, to enhance transparency.
13. All elected Members were emailed in January 2025 advising them of the consultation and inviting them to respond. Once we have further information on next steps and outcomes of the consultation these will be provided to the Audit and Governance Committee.

Registration of Members' Interests and Declarations of Interest at Meetings

14. All Members have submitted their Register of Interests and these are available for inspection via the Council's website. Members receive a twice-yearly email reminder (as set out in Annex 3) to keep their Register of Interests up to date. The most recent reminder was sent on 3 December 2024.
15. 31 declarations of interest were received at meetings held in public between 1 February 2024 and 31 January 2025. All were non-pecuniary interests. Details are included in Annex 1 to this report.
16. No complaints or referrals have been made to the Council or suggesting that a Member has taken part in a decision where they have had an interest which was not declared. The system is therefore considered to be working well, and Members proactively contact the Monitoring Officer or Democratic Services for advice when they consider they may have an interest which needs to be declared.
17. Internal Audit reviewed the Register of Members' Interests in October 2024 and highlighted issues in relation to Members' non-registration of their political party membership. In response Members were contacted to update their registration form where necessary. Further work was undertaken to review the registration form and accompanying guidance notes to improve transparency and make the registration process simpler. The revised form is set out in Annex 3 and the Audit and Governance Committee is asked to approve this for introduction in May 2025.
18. The English Devolution White Paper sets out proposals to remove the requirement for Members' home address details to be published. Currently, councils may consider requests to remove home addresses from published lists but there is inconsistency in how this provision is applied. Ahead of legislation being passed by Parliament, it is proposed that Members' home address details are kept confidential by default and not published on their Register of Interest forms (unless a Member specifically requests that their home address is published). Audit and Governance Committee is asked to endorse this approach.
19. The Audit and Governance Committee is responsible for granting dispensations to Members (including co-opted members) from requirements relating to interests set out in the Members' Code of Conduct (as set out in the Constitution in the committee's terms of reference in relation to Ethical Standards - paragraph 6.10(d), Part 3, Section 2 (Scheme of Delegation). No such dispensations have been requested during the past year.

Registration of Members' Gifts & Hospitality

20. Paragraph 10 of the Member Code of Conduct sets out councillor responsibilities with regards to the acceptance, refusal and registration of Gifts and Hospitality. Members are required to ensure that all offers of gifts and hospitality with a value of £50 or higher are registered with the Monitoring

Officer within 28 days of receipt, and that any significant offers of gifts and hospitality that have been offered but not accepted must also be registered.

21. The Monitoring Officer is responsible for the maintenance of the Register of Members' Gifts and Hospitality, and this is available for public inspection at the Council's offices on application.
22. As of 2022, all Members are sent a twice-yearly reminder to ensure that all offers of Gifts and Hospitality are registered; this is included in the email set out in Annex 2. The most recent reminder was sent on 3 December 2024.
23. Annex 2 to this report sets out all entries to the register received between 1 February 2023 and 31 January 2024. The register shows that declarations were made on 23 occasions by 10 Members. The declarations can be categorised as follows:
- Gifts offered whilst undertaking Member duties: 1
 - Dinners and social events/networking opportunities: 22
24. The nature of the gifts and hospitality declared by Members is consistent with that expected for a Member during the normal course of Council business and the various roles held by individual Members. On examination the declarations do not reveal any concerns relating to the acceptance of significant hospitality. The register does not demonstrate any trends in terms of those offering the gifts and hospitality. Nonetheless, Members should form their own view and should consider whether or not they wish to express any view on any of the hospitality accepted.
25. At its meeting on 5 June 2023, the Committee considered a request from a member of the public that councillors should be required to submit a nil return where appropriate in relation to their non receipt or offer of any gifts or hospitality during the course of the previous 12 months. The Committee noted the request for future consideration. Following review and benchmarking with other local authorities, it is considered appropriate to introduce such a nil return, and the revised Register of Members' Interests form set out in Annex 4 includes a section for such a return to be provided. Members will be asked to complete this twice a year, from May 2025.

Conclusions:

26. The report provides the Audit and Governance Committee with an update on activity in relation to ethical standards during the past year and future changes resulting from the English Devolution White Paper.

Risk Management Implications

27. The Council's Code of Conduct, Register of Interests and arrangements for dealing with complaints are statutory requirements and key elements of good governance. Continued guidance and training is intended to assist Members in observing the Code and so mitigate the risk of complaints about Members.

Legal Implications – Monitoring Officer:

28. The report compiles with the Council requirements to promote and maintain high standards of ethical behaviour by Member under section 27 of the Localism Act 2011 (“the Act”) and section 28 of the Act whereby the Council must have in place “arrangements” under which allegations that a member or co-opted member of the Council has failed to comply with Code of Conduct, can be investigated and decisions made on such allegations.

Financial and Value for Money Implications

29. An external investigation of a complaint costs in the region of £2000-5000. In the last year there were no investigations that required an external investigator.
30. The two Independent Persons each receive a payment of £1,000 per annum.
31. Value for money implications (to be added by Finance - TBC)

Equalities and Diversity Implications

32. There are no identified equalities and diversity implications to which the Committee needs to pay due regard.

Next steps:

33. The Monitoring Officer will report any recommendations from this Committee to the Member Conduct Panel and will keep the Independent Persons informed.

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Contact details: asmat.hussain@surreycc.gov.uk

Sources/background papers:

Constitution of the Council

Member Code of Conduct

Minutes of Audit & Governance Committee meeting, 5 June 2023

Report to County Council, Annual Report to Council – Member Development, 19 March 2024

Report to County Council, Appointment of Independent Persons, 10 December 2024

English Devolution White Paper, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, December 2024

Annexes/Appendices:

- Annex 1 - Declarations of Interests at Meetings – 1 February 2024 to 31 January 2025
 - Annex 2 - Register of Members' Gifts & Hospitality – 1 February 2024 to 31 January 2025
 - Annex 3 - Revised Registration of Members' Interests Form 2025
 - Annex 4 - Example of email reminder sent to Members regarding Registration of Interests and Gifts & Hospitality
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Date	Committee	Member	Item	Details
06/02/2024	Council	Bernie Muir	2024/25 Final Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy to 2028/29	Non Pecuniary - son works for Surrey Choices
		Keith Witham		Non Pecuniary - daughter works in Surrey County Council Finance Department
		Rachael Lake BEM		Non Pecuniary - son works for Surrey County Council
07/03/2024	Adults and Health Select Committee	Trefor Hogg	A New Hospital to Replace Frimley Park Hospital; Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Frimley Park)	Non Pecuniary - is a community representative to Frimley Health
		Edward Hawkins		Non Pecuniary - is a council-appointed foundation governor at Frimley Park Hospital
12/03/2024	Resources and Performance Select Committee	Hazel Watson	Removal of Payroll Service from Multi Academy Trusts and Academies	Non Pecuniary - is a governor of Ashcombe School, a Multi Academy Trust
		Tim Hall		Non Pecuniary - is the resources chairman for one of the Council's maintained primary schools, and a governor for another maintained school
19/03/2024	Council	David Lewis (Cobham)	Select Committee Feedback on a Referred Motion: 'Advertising and Sponsorship Policy'	Non Pecuniary - pensioner in Shell and holds shares in that company
		John O'Reilly		Non Pecuniary - pensioner in British Petroleum (BP) and holds shares in that company
		Liz Bowes		Non Pecuniary - pensioner in BP
		Carla Morson	Establishment of a Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny	Non Pecuniary - close family member works at Frimley Park Hospital

Declarations of Interest at Meetings – 1 February 2024 – 31 January 2025

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		Edward Hawkins	Committee (Frimley Park Hospital)	Non Pecuniary - is a council-appointed foundation governor at Frimley Park Hospital
		Trefor Hogg		Non Pecuniary - is a community representative to Frimley Health
17/04/2024	Children, Families and Lifelong Learning Select Committee	John O'Reilly	Youth Work Provision	Personal - is a trustee to the Hersham Youth Trust
		Jonathan Essex		Personal - sits on the Facilities Environment Committee of the YMCA
23/04/2024	Cabinet	Clare Curran	Your Fund Surrey Application - Epsom Sports Club Old Schools Lane Pavilion	Non Pecuniary - family members are members of Epsom Hockey Club
10/05/2024	Adults and Health Select Committee	Trefor Hogg	Not specified	Non Pecuniary - is a community representative to Frimley Health
		Carla Morson		Non Pecuniary - close family member works at Frimley Park Hospital
		Sinead Mooney		Non Pecuniary - is a council-nominated governor for Surrey and Borders Partnership
17/05/2024	Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Frimley Park Hospital)	Trefor Hogg	Not specified	Non Pecuniary - is a community representative to Frimley Health
		Carla Morson		Non Pecuniary - close family member works at Frimley Park Hospital

29/05/2024	Planning and Regulatory Committee	Chris Farr Jeffrey Gray	SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL PROPOSAL TA2024/47 - SITE OF FORMER ORCHARD COURT CARE HOME, EAST GRINSTEAD ROAD, LINGFIELD, SURREY, RH7 6ET	Non Pecuniary - is a Tandridge District Councillor, a member of the Planning and Planning Policy Committee, and was a member of the Lingfield Surgery. He confirmed that he had an open mind and was not predetermined. Non Pecuniary - is a Tandridge District Councillor and had not expressed any options on the application.
05/06/2024	Audit and Governance Committee	Steven McCormick	Not specified	Non Pecuniary - is the chair of Digital Business and Insights (DB&I) Task and Finish Group, and is a borough councillor at Epsom and Ewell Borough Council
06/09/2024	Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Frimley Park Hospital)	Trefor Hogg	Not specified	Non Pecuniary - is a community representative to Frimley Health
		Carla Morson		Non Pecuniary - close family member works at Frimley Park Hospital
10/10/2024	Adults and Health Select Committee	Trefor Hogg	Not specified	Non Pecuniary - is a community representative to Frimley Health
		Carla Morson		Non Pecuniary - close family member works at Frimley Park Hospital
19/11/2024	Communities, Environment and Environment Select Committee	Catherine Baart	Call-in: London Road Guildford Active Travel Scheme - Independent Technical Assessment of Section 1 for Consideration to Proceed	Personal - son lives very close to London Road and cycles to work, but not on Section 1 of the road
04/12/2024	Adults and Health Select Committee	John Furey	Not specified	Personal - in receipt of a care package from SCC

Declarations of Interest at Meetings – 1 February 2024 – 31 January 2025

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13/01/2025	Communities, Environment and Environment Select Committee	Stephen Cooksey	Call-in: Decision on Surrey Environment Partnership and Joint Waste Solutions	Non Pecuniary - leader of Mole Valley DC (participant authority in Joint Waste Solutions)
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ANNEX 2 Register of Members' Gifts and Hospitality

MEMBER	DATE OF ENTRY	DATE	PERSON OR ORGANISATION PROVIDING GIFT OR HOSPITALITY	DETAILS OF THE GIFT OR HOSPITALITY	VALUE (£)	JUSTIFICATION FOR HOSPITALITY
Attewell, Maureen				None declared		
Azad, Ayesha				None declared		
Baart, Catherine				None declared		
Bax, Steve				None declared		
Beckett, John				None declared		
Beech, Jordan				None declared		
Bennett, Luke				None declared		
Boote, Amanda				None declared		
Booth, Dennis				None declared		
Boparai, Harry				None declared		

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MEMBER	DATE OF ENTRY	DATE	PERSON OR ORGANISATION PROVIDING GIFT OR HOSPITALITY	DETAILS OF THE GIFT OR HOSPITALITY	VALUE (£)	JUSTIFICATION FOR HOSPITALITY
Bowes, Liz				None declared		
Bramhall, Natalie				None declared		
Clack, Helyn				None declared		
Cooksey, Stephen				None declared		
Curran, Clare	06/12/24	03/12/24	Stars in Surrey staff awards ceremony – fully funded by sponsors (Pick Everard; Ringway Infrastructure Services; Public Digital; Gate One Consulting; Connect2Surrey; Neilcott Construction; Atkins Realis; Concerto Partners; Impower; Beard Construction; Macro; Milestone Infrastructure; 31ten Consulting	Two course dinner and wine	c.£70	Accepted – representing SCC Members at staff awards ceremony
Darby, Nick				None declared		
Davidson, Fiona				None declared		

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MEMBER	DATE OF ENTRY	DATE	PERSON OR ORGANISATION PROVIDING GIFT OR HOSPITALITY	DETAILS OF THE GIFT OR HOSPITALITY	VALUE (£)	JUSTIFICATION FOR HOSPITALITY
Deach, Paul	05/11/24	28/10/24	Spice Lounge, Mytchett	Attendance at the Bangladesh Caterers Awards Ceremony	c.£100	Accepted – representing Mytchett Community at the Awards to celebrate the success of a very popular local business who contributes a lot to the local economy
Deanus, Kevin	11/12/24	03/12/24	Stars in Surrey staff awards ceremony – fully funded by sponsors (Pick Everard; Ringway Infrastructure Services; Public Digital; Gate One Consulting; Connect2Surrey; Neilcott Construction; Atkins Realis; Concerto Partners; Impower; Beard Construction; Macro; Milestone Infrastructure; 31ten Consulting	Two course dinner and wine	c.£70	Accepted – representing SCC Members at staff awards ceremony
Essex, Jonathan	09/12/24	03/12/24	Stars in Surrey staff awards ceremony – fully funded by sponsors (Pick Everard; Ringway Infrastructure Services; Public Digital; Gate One Consulting; Connect2Surrey; Neilcott Construction; Atkins Realis; Concerto Partners; Impower; Beard	Two course dinner and wine	c.£70	Accepted – representing SCC Members at staff awards ceremony

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			Construction; Macro; Milestone Infrastructure; 31ten Consulting			
Evans, Robert	None declared					
MEMBER	DATE OF ENTRY	DATE	PERSON OR ORGANISATION PROVIDING GIFT OR HOSPITALITY	DETAILS OF THE GIFT OR HOSPITALITY	VALUE (£)	JUSTIFICATION FOR HOSPITALITY
Farr, Chris	None declared					
Follows, Paul	None declared					
Forster, Will	None declared					
Furey, John	None declared					
Furniss, Matt	None declared					
Goodwin, Angela	None declared					
Gray, Jeffrey	None declared					
Hall, Tim	None declared					

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Harmer, David	None declared					
Harrison, Nick	None declared					
MEMBER	DATE OF ENTRY	DATE	PERSON OR ORGANISATION PROVIDING GIFT OR HOSPITALTY	DETAILS OF THE GIFT OR HOSPITALITY	VALUE (£)	JUSTIFICATION FOR HOSPITALITY
Hawkins, Edward	None declared					
Heath, Marisa	None declared					
Hogg, Trefor	21/10/24	03/10/24	DG Publishing	Dinner at Pan Pacific Hotel, London for LAPF (Local Authority Pension Fund) Investment Awards where Surrey Pension Fund were shortlisted for the Investment Innovation Award	c.£75	Accepted – representing Surrey at awards ceremony
Hughes, Robert	None declared					
Hulley, Jonathan	None declared					
Hussain, Saj	27/12/24	03/12/24	Stars in Surrey staff awards ceremony – fully funded by sponsors (Pick Everard; Ringway Infrastructure Services; Public Digital;	Two course dinner and wine	c.£70	Accepted – representing SCC Members at staff awards ceremony

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			Gate One Consulting; Connect2Surrey; Neilcott Construction; Atkins Realis; Concerto Partners; Impower; Beard Construction; Macro; Milestone Infrastructure; 31ten Consulting			
MEMBER	DATE OF ENTRY	DATE	PERSON OR ORGANISATION PROVIDING GIFT OR HOSPITALTY	DETAILS OF THE GIFT OR HOSPITALITY	VALUE (£)	JUSTIFICATION FOR HOSPITALITY
Jennings-Evans, Rebecca				None declared		
Kelly, Frank				None declared		
Khan, Riasat				None declared		
Kington, Eber				None declared		
Lake, Rachael				None declared		
Lewanski, Victor				None declared		
Lewis, David (Camberley West)						

ANNEX 2 Register of Members' Gifts and Hospitality

	None declared					
MEMBER	DATE OF ENTRY	DATE	PERSON OR ORGANISATION PROVIDING GIFT OR HOSPITALITY	DETAILS OF THE GIFT OR HOSPITALITY	VALUE (£)	JUSTIFICATION FOR HOSPITALITY
Lewis, David (Cobham)	06/12/24	03/12/24	Stars in Surrey staff awards ceremony – fully funded by sponsors (Pick Everard; Ringway Infrastructure Services; Public Digital; Gate One Consulting; Connect2Surrey; Neilcott Construction; Atkins Realis; Concerto Partners; Impower; Beard Construction; Macro; Milestone Infrastructure; 31ten Consulting	Two course dinner and wine	c.£70	Accepted – representing SCC Members at staff awards ceremony
Lewis, Scott	None declared					
Lynch, Andy	None declared					
MacLeod, Andy	None declared					

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Mallett, Ernest	None declared					
Martin, Michaela	None declared					
Mason, Jan	None declared					
MEMBER	DATE OF ENTRY	DATE	PERSON OR ORGANISATION PROVIDING GIFT OR HOSPITALTY	DETAILS OF THE GIFT OR HOSPITALITY	VALUE (£)	JUSTIFICATION FOR HOSPITALITY
McCormick, Steven	None declared					
McIntosh, Cameron	None declared					
McShane, Julia	None declared					
Mooney, Sinead	09/04/24	06/03/24	Pat Stapleton – Individual	A pair of shoes, new in box given to me after a meeting in lieu of assistance provided with housing issue.	c.£15	Accepted and donated to Daybreak Charity - justification - residents meeting.
Morson, Carla	None declared					
Muir, Bernie	None declared					

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Nuti, Mark	11/12/24	03/12/24	Stars in Surrey staff awards ceremony – fully funded by sponsors (Pick Everard; Ringway Infrastructure Services; Public Digital; Gate One Consulting; Connect2Surrey; Neilcott Construction; Atkins Realis; Concerto Partners; Impower; Beard Construction; Macro; Milestone Infrastructure; 31ten Consulting	Two course dinner and wine	c.£70	Accepted – representing SCC Members at staff awards ceremony
MEMBER	DATE OF ENTRY	DATE	PERSON OR ORGANISATION PROVIDING GIFT OR HOSPITALITY	DETAILS OF THE GIFT OR HOSPITALITY	VALUE (£)	JUSTIFICATION FOR HOSPITALITY
O'Reilly, John	None declared					
Oliver, Tim	29/02/24	05/02/24	Jes Ladva, Managing Partner and Lord Morse - Odgers Berndtson	A private dinner with local government council leaders	<£50	Accepted - Lord Morse provided thoughts and perspective on key challenges facing Local Government and other public services in light of his current role as Chair of the Office for Local Government (OfLOG) - a useful meeting and discussion to take part in.

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Oliver, Tim	29/02/24	16/02/24	Cllr Kevin Bentley, Conservative Group Leader, LGA	LGA Awayday – Travel Expenses, Dinner and Overnight Accommodation (Doubletree by Hilton Hotel)	Travel: £155.70 (rate of 0.45p per mile) Dinner: <£50 Accommodation: c.£85	Accepted - Awayday with other Conservative Leaders - useful for discussion, planning, looking at challenges, priorities, lessons learnt etc.
Oliver, Tim	29/02/24	28/02/24	Jonathan Werran, CEO, Localis	Localis Fellowship Dinner with Willmott Dixon on the theme of high street renewal; debate with experts from across national and local government and industry.	<£50	Accepted - discussion topic "Blueprint for the future of our high streets: how we can repurpose and reimagine the town centre" - this is useful to understand as part of Surrey's economy, place work and skills.
MEMBER	DATE OF ENTRY	DATE	PERSON OR ORGANISATION PROVIDING GIFT OR HOSPITALTY	DETAILS OF THE GIFT OR HOSPITALITY	VALUE (£)	JUSTIFICATION FOR HOSPITALITY
Oliver, Tim	02/04/24	07/03/24	Demi Hawkes, PA to Sector Leads, Kier Property	Kier Property's Sustainability Dinner, 7 March - an evening at Berry Bros to enjoy the fruits of the sustainable wine industry.	c.£50	Declined - not priority within Leader's portfolio.
Oliver, Tim	09/10/24	10/09/24	Surrey Development Forum – Cratus – sponsored by the Lord Porter of Spalding CBE	Surrey Development Forum Dinner - collaborative and constructive partnership between local authorities and the planning and development sector in Surrey	c.£50	Accepted - good networking opportunity and gave a SCC update

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Oliver, Tim	09/10/24	29/09/24	Sam Fulton, Director of Communications and External Engagement, London Gatwick Airport	Dinner at Radjoot Indian Restaurant, 78-79 George St, Birmingham B3 1PY for local authorities at Conservative Party Conference to discuss London Gatwick's economic and social contribution to local authority area and the region more broadly.	c.£50	Declined - clash with LGA invite that was thought more useful/better use of time
Oliver, Tim	09/10/24	30/09/24	UK100 – Christopher Hammond, CEO	Invite to a dinner roundtable at the Conservative Party Conference (Bank Restaurant, Brindleyplace, Birmingham). "With new leadership on the horizon and evolving Net Zero landscape, this roundtable dinner offers an opportunity to discuss key issues with your Conservative colleagues from across the country with our senior leadership team."	c.£50	Declined - clash with LGA invite that was thought more useful/better use of time
MEMBER	DATE OF ENTRY	DATE	PERSON OR ORGANISATION PROVIDING GIFT OR HOSPITALTY	DETAILS OF THE GIFT OR HOSPITALITY	VALUE (£)	JUSTIFICATION FOR HOSPITALITY
Oliver, Tim	09/10/24	30/09/24	Local Government Information Unit (LGIU) – Jonathan Carr-West (Chief Executive)	LGIU's Annual Dinner for Council Leaders at Conservative Party Conference	c.£50	Accepted - good networking opportunity and discussion on insights and thoughts on how

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MEMBER	DATE OF ENTRY	DATE	PERSON OR ORGANISATION PROVIDING GIFT OR HOSPITALTY	DETAILS OF THE GIFT OR HOSPITALITY	VALUE (£)	JUSTIFICATION FOR HOSPITALITY
						we can build a roadmap to financial resilience for the sector together - gave update on SCC
Oliver, Tim	04/11/24	22/10/24	James Bowman, PWC Partner UK Consulting Head of Local Public Service	Dinner at LGA Conference, at the DoubleTree by Hilton Harrogate Majestic Hotel - informal evening of dinner and discussion, with a focus on the evolving role of Local Government as place leaders and the year ahead. Guest speaker was Jim McMahon MP - Minister of State at MHCLG.	c.£50	Accepted - particularly with Minister there, though a useful session for networking and information sharing.
Oliver, Tim	04/11/24	23/10/24	Local Vape Action, Lord Porter hosting private lunch at LGA Conference	Dinner at LGA Conference - The lunch to be held under Chatham House rules to discuss the potential creation and roll out of Community Vape Partnerships, along similar lines to Community Alcohol Partnerships, and how local authorities can become involved and benefit from this initiative.	c.£50	Accepted - Representing SCC at discussion and interested in hearing from other local authorities.

ANNEX 2 Register of Members' Gifts and Hospitality

Oliver, Tim	06/12/24	07/11/24	Surrey Chamber of Commerce Business Awards 2024 - run by Platinum Media Group, in partnership with Surrey Chamber of Commerce. Contact - Emma Lindsell, Head of Economy & Skills (interim)	Dinner at the event, where the Leader presented an award	c.£50	Accepted - the Leader presented an award and it was an important event to recognise and celebrate Surrey businesses
Oliver, Tim	06/12/24	13/11/24	The High Sheriff – Judiciary Dinner	Dinner at this event	c.£50	Accepted - networking opportunity and chance to catch up with High Sheriff and Lieutenancy
Oliver, Tim	06/12/24	27/11/24	ICS Network Dinner – NHS Confederation	Dinner after the ICS Network Conference on 'Tackling today while building for tomorrow'	c.£50	Accepted - networking and reflection with other attendees after the conference
Oliver, Tim	06/12/24	03/12/24	Stars in Surrey staff awards ceremony – fully funded by sponsors (Pick Everard; Ringway Infrastructure Services; Public Digital; Gate One Consulting; Connect2Surrey; Neilcott Construction; Atkins Realis; Concerto Partners; Impower; Beard Construction; Macro; Milestone Infrastructure; 31ten Consulting)	Two course dinner and wine	c.£70	Accepted – representing SCC Members at staff awards ceremony
Paul, Rebecca	None declared					

ANNEX 2 Register of Members' Gifts and Hospitality

MEMBER	DATE OF ENTRY	DATE	PERSON OR ORGANISATION PROVIDING GIFT OR HOSPITALITY	DETAILS OF THE GIFT OR HOSPITALITY	VALUE (£)	JUSTIFICATION FOR HOSPITALITY
Potter, George						None declared
Powell, Catherine						None declared
Rivers, Penny						None declared
Robini, John						None declared
Rush, Becky						None declared
Sexton, Joanne						None declared
Spencer, Lance						None declared
Steeds, Lesley						None declared
Sugden, Mark						None declared
Tear, Richard						None declared

ANNEX 2 Register of Members' Gifts and Hospitality

Tilling, Ashley	None declared					
MEMBER	DATE OF ENTRY	DATE	PERSON OR ORGANISATION PROVIDING GIFT OR HOSPITALITY	DETAILS OF THE GIFT OR HOSPITALITY	VALUE (£)	JUSTIFICATION FOR HOSPITALITY
Townsend, Chris	None declared					
Townsend, Liz	None declared					
Turner-Stewart, Denise	None declared					
Watson, Hazel	None declared					
Webster, Jeremy	None declared					
Weerasinghe, Buddhi	None declared					
White, Fiona	None declared					
Witham, Keith	None declared					

ANNEX 2 Register of Members' Gifts and Hospitality

DRAFT Register of Members' Interests Form 2025

Section A: Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Q1. Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain

Note 1: Please describe your (and your spouse/partner's) source of earned income (i.e. how you make a living), including job title/description and the name of the employing business/organisation. If you/your spouse/partner are self-employed or retired, please state this.

Councillor:	Spouse/Civil Partner/Equivalent:

Q2. Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the council) made to a Councillor during the previous 12-month period for expenses incurred by him/her in carrying out his/her duties as a Councillor, or towards his/her election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

Note 2: Please include any financial support you have received or continue to receive for being a councillor. This will include election expenses if you are a member of a political party which pays these.

Councillor:	Spouse/Civil Partner/Equivalent:

Q3. Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where – (a) That body has a place of business or land in the area of the relevant authority; and (b) either – (i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

Note 3: This Disclosable Pecuniary Interest concerns any shares, bonds etc. that you or your spouse/civil partner/equivalent hold (you must include your partner's interest). Only a business that has a place of business or land in the administrative area of the county is relevant. Only share ownership that has a face value equal to or more than £25,000 (NB not the trading value) is relevant, unless you hold 1% or more of the total shares issued or of any class of shares.

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ANNEX 3

Councillor:	Spouse/Civil Partner/Equivalent:

Q4. Any contract made between a Councillor or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom a Councillor is living as if they were spouses/civil partners (or a firm in which such person is a partner, or an incorporated body of which such person is a director* or a body that such person has a beneficial interest in the securities of*) and the Council- A) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.

Note 4: If you or your spouse/civil partner/equivalent have any contracts with SCC or you are an owner or part owner of a business which has SCC contracts you must declare this here. If the contract is completed (i.e. no more services or payments arising) you do not need to include it.

Councillor:	Spouse/Civil Partner/Equivalent:

Q5. Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the Council. ‘Land’ excludes an easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not give a Councillor or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/ civil partners (alone or jointly with another) a right to occupy or to receive income.

Note 5: This is where you must declare any property that you or your spouse/civil partner/equivalent own in the administrative area of the County of Surrey. If land is held on trust for either of you it should be included in the declaration. It includes both freehold and leased land, including your home if you are a homeowner.

Councillor:	Spouse/Civil Partner/Equivalent:

Q6. Any tenancy where (to the Councillor’s knowledge)— (a) the landlord is the Council; and (b) the tenant is a body that the Councillor, or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the Councillor is living as if they were spouses/ civil partners is a partner of or a director* of or has a beneficial interest in the securities* of.

ANNEX 3

Note 6: You must declare any properties which you or your spouse/civil partner/equivalent rent from Surrey County Council, or which is rented by a business which you or they own or partly own.

Councillor:	Spouse/Civil Partner/Equivalent:

Q7. Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the relevant authority for a month or longer.

Note 7: This is where you must declare any property in the administrative area of the County of Surrey that you or your spouse/civil partner/equivalent occupy or have the use of, with the permission of someone else, an allotment for example.

Councillor:	Spouse/Civil Partner/Equivalent:

Section B: Other Registerable Interests

Q8. Any body within the County of Surrey of which you are in a position of general control or management which exercises functions of a public nature and / or is directed to charitable purposes.

Note 8: Examples might include Age UK, Surrey Countryside Partnership, Surrey Community Action, John Beane's Charity, Hospices, Parochial Church Councils.

Councillor:	Spouse/Civil Partner/Equivalent:

Q9. Any body within Surrey of which you are in a position of general control or management and to which you are nominated or appointed by Surrey County Council.

Note 9: Examples might include membership of Borough/District and Parish/Town Councils, Housing Associations, school governorships, NHS Foundation Trusts, University Boards of Governors.

ANNEX 3

Councillor:	Spouse/Civil Partner/Equivalent:

Q10. Any body whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union) of which you hold a membership.

Note 10: Please include your political party membership (where relevant). Other examples of relevant bodies might include the National Trust, CPRE or Surrey Fairtrade.

Councillor:	Spouse/Civil Partner/Equivalent:

Section C: Gifts and Hospitality

Q11. Any Gifts or Hospitality with a value of £50 or more received within the previous twelve-month period.

Note 11. All offers of Gifts and Hospitality with a value of £50 or more (whether accepted or refused) must be registered with the Monitoring Officer within 28 days of receipt.

Nature and value of Gift/Hospitality and date received:	Person/organisation providing Gift/Hospitality:

