

Standards Committee
18 October 2023

WELWYN HATFIELD COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the WELWYN HATFIELD COUNCIL STANDARDS COMMITTEE
Wednesday 18 October 2023 at 7.30 pm in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, The Campus,
Garden City, Herts, AL8 6AE.

PRESENT: Councillors
M. Birleson (Chairman),
T. Kingsbury,
N. Pace
T Rowse
P. Zukowskyj

ALSO PRESENT: I Jobson (Independent Person)

OFFICIALS PRESENT: R. Baker, Executive Director (Finance & Transformation)
D. Hill, Senior Governance Officer,
S McDaid, Service Director (Resident and Neighbourhood)
R Misir, Democratic Services officer
C Samuels Democratic Service Assistant

16. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

17. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2023 were approved as a correct record.

18. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS BY MEMBERS

Cllrs Kingsbury and Zukowskyj advised they were members of Hertfordshire County Council.

19. NOTIFICATION OF URGENT BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED UNDER ITEM 6

There were no items of urgent business.

20. RIPA REPORT

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RIPA Report

The Committee received a presentation and the report of the Service Director (Service and Neighbourhood). The list of authorised officers and the Senior Responsible Officer (SRO) had been updated and those changes were reflected in the Corporate Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA) policy which was set out at Appendix A of the report. There had not been any applications for the use of surveillance under RIPA since the last report in September 2022.

Following the presentation, Members noted some issues which are summarised below:

- Members raised a concern regarding the observation of criminal activity outside of the RIPA guidelines. Officers confirmed that information about potential criminality would still be shared.
- Members noticed some typographical errors and officers agreed to rectify this.
- No RIPA applications were made in the last 12 months.

21. SUCH OTHER BUSINESS AS, IN THE OPINION OF THE CHAIR, IS OF SUFFICIENT URGENCY TO WARRANT IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION

There was no other business.

Meeting ended at 7.45 pm