

**Report To:** Standards Committee

**Date of Meeting:** 18<sup>th</sup> September 2015

**Lead Member / Officer:** Gary Williams, Monitoring Officer

**Report Author:** Gary Williams, Monitoring Officer

**Title:** Visits to City, Town and Community Councils

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**1. What is the report about?**

1.1 The report is about the visits previously undertaken by Members of the Committee to observe the proceedings of City, Town and Community Council visits.

**2. What is the reason for making this report?**

2.1 To provide the Committee with details of the visits previously made by Members in order that future visits may be planned in such a way that there is no duplication of councils visited.

**3. What are the Recommendations?**

3.1 That members of the Committee consider the information provided in Appendix 1 to this report and use the information to plan future visits to City, Town and Community Councils.

**4. Report details.**

4.1 At the meeting of the Committee held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May Members discussed the visits made by them to observe the proceedings of City, Town and Community Councils. The purpose of these visits is to observe the proceedings of the relevant council, to make those councils aware of the work of the Standards Committee, to provide advice and identify potential areas for future training.

4.2 Members agreed that it would be of assistance in planning and coordinating such visits, that they were each made aware of the visits that had previously been undertaken in order that they avoid duplicating relatively recent visits and concentrate on visiting those councils that had not recently been visited.

4.3 There is attached as Appendix 1 to this report a table setting out the visits that have been verbally reported to the Committee by Members since February 2013, together with, where recorded, the date of those visits.

4.4 Also included for Members' assistance at Appendix 2 is a list of the City, Town and Community Councils of Denbighshire sorted by way of cluster groups. The County Council organises cluster meetings with representatives of Community

Councils to engage with and provide information to them. These meetings are organised on an area or cluster basis. Members will be able to recognise which of the various Councils are located within each cluster area.

**5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?**

5.1 The report has no direct impact on the corporate priorities.

**6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?**

6.1 There are no costs directly associated with the report.

**7. What are the main conclusions of the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) undertaken on the decision? The completed EqIA template should be attached as an appendix to the report.**

7.1 This report does not require an equality impact assessment.

**8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?**

8.1 This matter has not been reported or consulted upon elsewhere.

**9. Chief Finance Officer Statement**

9.1 There are no significant financial implications arising from the report.

**10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?**

10.1 There is a risk that if City, Town and Community Councils are not visited by Members then training or conduct issues that may need to be addressed are not brought to the fore, and the Committee is unable to actively promote high standards of conduct.

**11. Power to make the Decision**

11.1 There is no decision required.