

PUBLIC

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**31<sup>st</sup> October 2018**

**Report of the Monitoring Officer**

**GRANTING OF A DISPENSATION TO ALL ELECTED MEMBERS**

**1. Purpose of the Report**

To note that the Chair of Standards Committee, following consultation with the Monitoring Officer, granted a dispensation to all Members of Derbyshire County Council for the purposes of ensuring a debate could take place in respect of a Council Motion presented to Full Council on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

**2. Information and Analysis**

On 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018, Councillor I Ratcliffe submitted a Notice of Motion which had the following resolution:

The Council, therefore resolves:

1. To use the County Council's convening powers and expertise in corporate parenting work with all council tax collecting authorities to exempt all care leavers in the county from council tax up to the age of 25, sharing any arising costs proportionately.

The full wording of the Notice of Motion can be found in the Full Council Agenda for 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018, listed as Agenda Item 11a.

2. It is noted that 44 of the 64 Elected Members for the County Council are dual hatted ie represent a District or Borough Council in addition to their County Council role and thus could be deemed to be conflicted and thus unable to participate in a debate of this Motion. Such a high level of Members being affected could also have negatively impacted on the quoracy of the meeting for this particular Agenda Item. However it was also noted that all Elected Members must be able to fully promote their roles as Corporate Parents for the County Council.

Given this conflicting position, the Chair of Standards Committee agreed to grant a dispensation to all 44 dual hatted Elected Members so that they could freely participate in this debate and thus promote their Corporate Parenting responsibilities if they wished to do so.

### **3. Considerations**

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: - financial, human resources, legal and human rights, equality of opportunity, health, environmental, transport, property, crime and disorder and social value considerations.

### **4. Background Papers**

Full Council Agenda for 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018, Agenda Item 11a: Notice of Motion received from Councillor I Ratcliffe.

### **5. Officer Recommendation**

Standards Committee notes the granting of a dispensation to all Members of Derbyshire County Council for the purposes of ensuring a debate could take place in respect of a Council Motion presented to Full Council on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

**Janie Berry**  
**Monitoring Officer**