

Code Of Conduct – background document
From Meesha Patel Monitoring Officer for Malvern Hills District Council

You will recall in 2019 the Committee on Standards in Public Life (CSPL) into Local Government Ethical Standards produced a report based on their review of standards in local government. The CSPL concluded that high standards of conduct in local government are needed to protect the integrity of decision-making, maintain public confidence, and safeguard local democracy. They made 26 recommendations for central government many of which will require changes to primary legislation and 15 best practice recommendations for local authorities to consider as a benchmark of good ethical practice.

Last year, the Local Government Association (LGA) pursuant to the CSPL's work produced a model code of conduct and encouraged all local authorities to consider adoption of the model code with or without alteration.

In view of this report the Monitoring Officers from the Worcestershire district councils and the county council met to review the report and consider what changes/ updates were needed to our existing code to bring it in line with the model code.

Consequently the attached code has now been adopted by Malvern Hills District Council with a recommendation that all Parish and Town Councils within the district be encouraged to also adopt the same.