

Local Constituency Matters

At its meeting on 24 July, the Standards and Ethics Committee considered whether members can involve themselves with constituency matters relating to another Division.

It was acknowledged that some members will have an official role which may well affect another member's Division (eg through participating in a decision of Planning and Regulatory Committee, Cabinet or Scrutiny), which is perfectly valid. However, elected members are community leaders for their Division and are entitled not to have other members involving themselves in particular constituency matters which are for the local member to deal with.

The Committee therefore asked me to remind all councillors of their responsibility not to involve themselves as a County Councillor in local constituency matters relating to another member's Division without the prior knowledge and consent of that member. This is set out within the member role descriptions at page L20 of the Member/Officer Relations Protocol (which forms part of the Constitution and contains useful guidance)