

Barrow Borough Council
Audit and Governance Committee
30 September 2021
Employee Register of Gifts and Hospitality

Report from: Monitoring Officer

Report Author: Debbie Storr

Wards: None

1.0 Summary and Conclusions

1.1 This report is presented to review the register of interests and gifts and hospitality for employees for the period September 2020 to September 2021.

2.0 Recommendation

It is recommended that the Committee notes the report

3.0 Background and Proposals

3.1 The Officer's code of conduct for Barrow Borough Council Employees provides guidance on interests and gifts and hospitality. The Council has Hospitality Guidance which provides information as to how employees should treat any offers of gifts and hospitality.

3.2 There is a standard corporate form and offers of hospitality that are declined should also be included in any declarations.

3.3 The Audit and Governance Committee considers the Council's compliance with its own and other published standards and controls and considers the arrangements for corporate governance and agreeing necessary actions to ensure compliance with best practice.

3.4 The Committee has an overview of the Employee Register and reviews on an annual basis.

4.0 Consultation

Management Group have been asked to confirm that the register of interests is up to date. In the last twelve months, no significant gifts or hospitality has been received and the Monitoring Officer has requested an update of any formal declarations. An update will be provided at the meeting.

5.0 Alternative Options

5.1 There are no alternative options. The annual review forms part of the Committee's work programme.

6.0 Contribution to Council Plan Priorities

6.1 Good governance underpins the objectives of the Council Plan

7.0 Implications

Financial, Resources and Procurement

7.1.1 Not applicable

Legal

7.1.2 Under the Council's procedures employees are required to declare appropriate interests and any gifts and hospitality received.

Equality and Diversity

7.2 Have you completed an Equality Impact Analysis? No – not applicable

Risk

Risk	Consequence	Controls required
Register is not maintained or incomplete	Officers could be in breach of code of conduct	Regular monitoring and sufficient awareness and training

Contact Officers

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Appendices Attached to this Report

None