



<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Northern Ireland Local Government Code of Conduct – Acceptance and Registration of Gifts and Hospitality</b>
<b>Date:</b>	23rd August, 2019
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John Walsh, City Solicitor / Director of Legal and Civic Services
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
<b>Is this report restricted?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?</b>	
<b>After Committee Decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>After Council Decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Some time in the future</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Never</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Call-in</b>	
<b>Is the decision eligible for Call-in?</b>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of Main Issues</b>
1.1	To consider the limit to be set for the receipt of any gift, hospitality, material benefit or service above which must be notified to the Chief Executive.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to agree that any gift, hospitality, material benefit or service received above the value of £50 be reported to the Chief Executive and recorded in the appropriate Register.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	Members should be aware that the Northern Ireland Local Government Code of Conduct for Councillors at paragraph 4.20 - Acceptance and registration of gifts and hospitality – states that:

	<p><i>You must:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>a) in accordance with any standing orders of your council and within 28 days of receipt of any gift, hospitality, material benefit or service, which is above a value specified in a resolution of your council, provide written notification to your chief executive of the existence and nature of that gift, hospitality, material benefit or service;</i></li> <li><i>b) not accept from anyone gifts, hospitality, material benefits or services for yourself or any other person, which might place you, or reasonably appear to place you, under an improper obligation; and</i></li> <li><i>c) discourage gifts and offers of hospitality to any family members which might place you, or reasonably appear to place you, under an improper obligation.</i></li> </ul> <p>3.2 The current value above which the gifts and hospitality etc. are reported to the Chief Executive is £50 and it is proposed that this limit is maintained for the next Council term.</p> <p>3.3 As with declarations of interest, it is the responsibility of the Councillor to report the receipt of such gifts. However, if a Member has any queries or concerns, advice can be sought from Legal Services/Democratic Services on whether or not it would be appropriate to report any gifts received.</p> <p><b><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></b></p> <p>3.4 None associated with this report.</p> <p><b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></b></p> <p>3.5 None associated with this report.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	None.