

### Summary of responses from Councillors

- 1) In The list of “Don’ts” it is stated – “Don’t use social media in any way to attack, insult, abuse, defame or otherwise make negative, offensive or discriminatory comments about Council staff, service users, their family or friends, colleagues, other professionals, other organisations or the Council”.

Two members expressed concern that if they are, for example, not in support of a particular Council initiative or planning application which officers are supporting (list not exhaustive) then they will be prohibited from canvassing alternative ideas as they will be making negative comments against the Council.

- 2) Paragraph 8 (i) states “Expressly state (through a prominent disclaimer) on any profile or content that identifies you as a Councillor (or otherwise refers to or implies a relationship with the Council) that the stated views are your own personal views and not those of the Council.”

A request was made for a short disclaimer to be drafted which could be used by Councillors.

- 3) A lot of what is included in the code is already part of other elements of the code of conduct so why single out social media? A guide could be used in training but it does not need to be part of the constitution/ rules.