

Chelmsford City Council Governance Committee

6 March 2024

Gifts and Hospitality Report

Report by:

Monitoring Officer

Officer Contact:

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Purpose

To update the Committee on offers of Gifts and Hospitality from January to December 2023.

Recommendations

That the report to be noted and that the register of Gifts and Hospitality for Councillors be updated quarterly and published on the Council's website.

1. Background or Introduction

1.1. At its meeting on 20th January 2010, the Standards Committee agreed that an annual report should be made on offers of Gifts and Hospitality which have been made to Members of the Council and when the Governance Committee assumed responsibility for these matters, this annual report was brought to this Committee.

2. Offers Made

- 2.1. The Monitoring Officer has noted that there were several members and officers who were offered and accepted free tickets to Creamfields last year. This offer was made available via the Council and has been treated as a generic event-based declaration in any event.
- 2.2. Other offers of gifts and hospitality to members of Chelmsford Council for the period January to December 2023 can be found at Appendix 1. In summary, there were four declarations by members.
- 2.3. With regards to offers of gifts and hospitality to officers of the Council, there are no further offers to be noted for 2023.

List of appendices:

Appendix 1 – Offers of Gifts and Hospitality (Councillors) January to December 2023

Background papers:

Nil

Corporate Implications

Legal/Constitutional: Councillors and Officers are required to declare any offers of gifts and hospitality above a certain threshold and it has been the Council's longstanding practice to annual report the details to Governance Committee.

Financial: None

Potential impact on climate change and the environment: None

Contribution toward achieving a net zero carbon position by 2030: None

Personnel: None

Risk Management: None

Equality and Diversity: No equalities impact assessment necessary.

Health and Safety: None

Digital: None

Other: None

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None

Relevant Policies and Strategies: Member and employee Codes of Conduct

Offers of Gifts and Hospitality (Councillors) – January to December 2023

APPENDIX 1

No.	Date	Councillor	Gift/Hospitality	Value	Organization	Whether Accepted
Cllr 64	22/2/23	Steel	Goody bag from Morrisons opening	Below £50	Morrisons	Accepted
Cllr 67	29/8/23	Massey	2x tickets to restaurant launch including complimentary meal.	£60 (£30 each)	Meadowcroft Marketing	Accepted
Cllr 68	2/11/23	Robinson	Evening at Chelmsford City Racecourse		Chelmsford City Racecourse	Declined
CIIr 69	2/11/23	M. Goldman	Evening at Chelmsford City Racecourse		Chelmsford City Racecourse	Declined

There were several offers of gifts and hospitality made via the Council in relation to Creamfields tickets to members/officers in 2023 (2 free tickets maximum per employee or member). This has been treated as an event-based declaration for any members/officers who accepted the offer. Declaration numbers 65 and 66 relate to two councillors who made declarations in relation to the tickets.