

Agenda for a meeting of the Standards Committee to be held on Thursday 30 October 2008 at 1400 in Committee Room 3, City Hall, Bradford

Members of the Committee –

Independent Members

Mrs P Essler (Chair), Mr G Dobson, The Very Revd Dr D J Ison, Mr M Shakeel

Parish and Town Council Members

Parish Councillors Jay and Mitchell (& 1 vacancy)

Councillors

CONSERVATIVE	LABOUR	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT
Binney	Ferriby	Q Khan
Owens	Flowers	
D Smith	Ikram	

Notes:

- *This agenda can be made available in Braille, large print or tape format on request by contacting the Agenda contact shown below.*
- *If any further information is required about any item on this agenda, please contact the officer named at the foot of each agenda item.*



No smoking is allowed in City Hall.

From:

S Hemingway
City Solicitor
Agenda Contact: Tracey Sugden
Phone: 01274 434287
Fax: 01274 728260
E-Mail: tracey.sugden@bradford.gov.uk

To:

Ward



2006-2007
Improving Rural Services
Empowering Communities



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Suzan Hemingway, Assistant Director Corporate Services (City Solicitor)



A. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

1. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

(Members Code of Conduct - Part 4A of Constitution)

To receive disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from members and co-opted members on matters to be considered at the meeting. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest.

An interest must also be disclosed in the meeting when it only becomes apparent to the member during the meeting.

Notes:

Members may remain in the meeting and take part fully in discussion and voting unless the interest is prejudicial.

A personal interest is a prejudicial interest if it is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the member's judgement of the public interest.

Members must withdraw from the meeting if the interest is a prejudicial interest unless a dispensation has been obtained from the Standards Committee.

Members may not vote on a matter affecting the finances of the Council if they are in arrears with their Council Tax by more than two months.

Officers must disclose interests in accordance with Council Standing Orders paragraph 44.

2. MINUTES

Recommended –

That the minutes of the meeting held on 11 September 2008 be signed as a correct record (previously circulated):

3. INSPECTION OF REPORTS AND BACKGROUND PAPERS

(Access to Information Procedure Rules – Part 3B of the Constitution)

Reports and background papers for agenda items may be inspected by contacting the person shown after each agenda item. Certain reports and background papers may be restricted.

Any request to remove the restriction on a report or background paper should be made to the relevant Director or Head of Service whose name is shown on the front page of the report.

If that request is refused, there is a right of appeal to this meeting.

Please contact the officer shown below in advance of the meeting if you wish to appeal.

(Tracey Sugden - 01274 434287)

B. BUSINESS ITEMS

4. MONITORING OFFICER'S REPORT ON COMPLAINTS

The Monitoring Officer will report to the meeting the receipt of any complaint notified direct to her or via the Standards Board for England, the stage that any notified complaint has reached and the final outcome on the consideration of a complaint.

(Suzan Hemingway - 01274 432496)

5. STANDARDS COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

An updated copy of the Committee's work programme is appended to this agenda for Members' information.

(Suzan Hemingway – 01274 433696)

6. LOCAL GOVERNMENT OMBUDSMAN'S ANNUAL LETTER 2007-08

The Assistant Director Corporate Services (City Solicitor) will present a report (**Document "C"**) which provides an overview of the information contained in the recently published Local Government Ombudsman's annual letter for 2007/08.

Recommended –

That the contents of the Annual Letter be noted.

(Christine France – 01274 433598)

7. RELEVANT CRITERIA WHEN CONSIDERING ALTERNATIVE ACTION TO LOCAL INVESTIGATION

The Assistant Director Corporate Services (City Solicitor) will present a report (**Document "D"**) which sets out the present position and criteria for consideration when an Assessment Panel deems alternative action to be an appropriate method of dealing with a complaint regarding the alleged conduct of a District or Town/Parish Councillor.

Attached to Document "D" is a powerpoint presentation used by the Council's Monitoring Officer when she acted as a speaker at a workshop on the issue of alternative action at the recent annual assembly of Standards Committees.

Recommended –

The Committee is recommended to consider the document attached to Document "D" and discuss the implications.

(Suzan Hemingway – 01274 432496)

8. **SEVENTH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF STANDARDS COMMITTEES**

Members of the Committee who attended the seventh annual assembly of Standards Committees on 13-14 October 2008 are invited to give feedback to the meeting.

(Suzan Hemingway – 01274 432496)

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THIS AGENDA AND ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS HAVE BEEN PRODUCED, WHEREVER POSSIBLE, ON RECYCLED PAPER