

Agenda for a meeting of the Standards Committee to be held on Thursday 4 December 2008 at 1300 in Committee Room 4, City Hall, Bradford

PLEASE NOTE THE EARLIER START TIME

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 Bowen*, Jay and Mitchell

**Subject to confirmation by Council on 2 December 2008*

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:



2006-2007
Improving Rural Services
Empowering Communities



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 30 October 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. STANDARDS COMMITTEE PROCEDURES

Members are invited to consider revised procedures set out in **Document "E"** for adoption in connection with the determination of complaints alleging that members of the Council including voting co-opted members, Town and Parish Councillors have acted in breach of the Member Code of Conduct or of local protocols.

Recommended –

That the procedures attached to Document "E" be approved with any modification that the Committee sees fit.

(Ivan Harrison -01274 432215)

7. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ELECTED MEMBERS.

The report of the Assistant Director Corporate Services (City Solicitor) (**Document "F"**) sets out the issues raised in the consultation document "Communities in Control; Real People, Real Power Codes of Conduct for Local Authority Members and Employees – A Consultation" specifically in relation to proposed amendments to the Code of Conduct for Elected Members.

Recommended –

(1) That the Standards Committee considers the consultation paper and the questions and agrees a response.

(2) That Standards Committee considers what further actions it wishes to include in the work programme arising out of this consultation.

(Suzan Hemingway – 01274 433696)

8. PROPOSALS TO INTRODUCE A NATIONAL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.

The report of the Assistant Director Corporate Services (City Solicitor) (**Document “G”**) sets out the issues raised in the consultation document “Communities in Control; Real People, Real Power Codes of Conduct for Local Authority Members and Employees – A Consultation” specifically in relation to the proposals to introduce a National Code of Conduct for Local Government Employees.

Recommended –

- (1) That the Standards Committee considers the consultation paper and the questions and agrees a response.**
- (2) That Standards Committee considers what further actions it wishes to include in the work programme arising out of this consultation.**

(Suzan Hemingway – 01274 433696)

9. SEVENTH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF STANDARDS COMMITTEES

Document “H” provides information to the Standards Committee on the 7th Annual Assembly of Standards Committees held on 13 and 14 October 2008 attended by the Assistant Director Corporate Services (City Solicitor).

Recommended –

- (1) That Standards Committee considers the report and notes its contents.**
- (2) That Standards Committee considers what, if any, feedback ought to be made to the Standards Board for England regarding the content of the conference and its format.**

(Suzan Hemingway – 01274 433696)

i:\agenda 08-09\standardscttee\sta4dec

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