

Agenda for a meeting of the Standards Committee to be held on Thursday 20 May 2010 at 1430 in the Saville Room, 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 Bowen and Mitchell (1 vacancy)

Councillors

CONSERVATIVE	LABOUR	LIBERAL DEMOCRAT
Binney	Ferriby	Middleton
Owens	Lee	
D Smith	A Thornton	

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:

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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 4 March 2010 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. THE HIGHLY EFFECTIVE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Previous Reference: Minute 53 (2009/10)

At the meeting of the Committee held on 4 March 2010 Members were invited to discuss what constitutes a highly effective Standards Committee and were asked to complete a feedback sheet that had been circulated at the Standards for England Annual Assembly when the same item had been considered.

The Assistant Director Corporate Services (City Solicitor) will present a report (**Document “T”**) which collates feedback from the discussion.

Recommended –

The Standards Committee is asked to consider the issues raised at the discussion on 4 March 2010 and the feedback information contained in Appendix 1 to Document “T” and agree any further actions to be included in the work programme for the municipal year 2010/11.

(Suzan Hemingway - 01274 432496)

5. ANNUAL REVIEW OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

The Committee is asked to consider **Document “U”** which provides information on complaints received during the municipal year 2009/10.

Recommended –

That the Standards Committee considers the data provided relating to the complaints received and discusses possible actions to deliver improvements to the complaints process.

(Suzan Hemingway - 01274 432496)

6. STANDARDS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2009/10

The Assistant Director Corporate Services (City Solicitor) will present **Document “V”** to which is appended the draft Annual Report for the Committee for 2009/10.

Recommended –

The Standards Committee is asked to consider the draft Annual Report attached to Document “V” and make any suggestions for amendment or additions as appropriate.

(Suzan Hemingway - 01274 432496)

7. REVIEW OF THE PLANNING CODE OF CONDUCT

The joint report of the Assistant Director Corporate Services (City Solicitor) and Assistant Director Planning (**Document “W”**) sets out proposals and options for amendments to the Council’s Planning Code of Conduct following review.

The report also outlines the action taken by the Council in response to recommendations made by the Standards Board’s Ethical Standards Officer in response to an investigation into the conduct of a councillor under complaint number SBE-06997-NNQOS.

Recommended –

- (1) That Members note the proposed amendments to the Members Planning Code of Conduct contained in the Appendix to Document “W” and recommend them to the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee for adoption by Council.**
- (2) That Members note the action taken by the Assistant Director Planning and the Assistant Director Corporate Services (City Solicitor) in response to the recommendations made by the Standards Board’s Ethical Standards Officer in response to an investigation into the conduct of a councillor under complaint number SBE-06997-NNQOS**

(Frank Suadwa – 01274 432183)

8. ADJUDICATION PANEL FOR ENGLAND DECISIONS

Members are invited to consider summaries of recent decisions made by the Adjudication Panel for England regarding allegations of misconduct against members which are set out in **Document “X”**.

Recommended –

That Standards Committee Members consider the information contained in Document “X” in the context of their responsibilities for local investigation of complaints into conduct by members.

(Suzan Hemingway - 01274 432496)

9. 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)