

Decisions of the Standards Committee held on Thursday 29 September 2011

**These decisions are published for information in
advance of the publication of the Minutes**

DECISIONS:

1. MONITORING OFFICER'S REPORT ON COMPLAINTS

No resolution was passed on this item.

(Suzan Hemingway - 01274 432496)

2. LOCAL GOVERNMENTS OMBUDSMAN'S ANNUAL REVIEW 2010/11

Resolved –

- (1) That the Monitoring Officer investigate current practice in terms of tracking action recommended by the Ombudsman and confirming with her that recommended action has been undertaken and report the outcome of those investigations to a future meeting of the Committee.
- (2) That the next Annual Review be accompanied by the statistics in this Annual Review for comparison purposes.
- (3) That the next Annual Review be accompanied by a précis of the complaints received and handled locally over the same period of time for comparison purposes.

(Christine France – 01274 433598)

3. OFFICER CODE OF CONDUCT

Resolved –

That the suggested amendments set out below be forwarded to the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee for consideration:-



Suzan Hemingway, City Solicitor

Page 1 – first paragraph

The words “in consultation with staff and Trade Unions” to be added to the end of that paragraph.

Page 2 (and throughout)

The use of numbering and bullet points to be regularised for ease of use.

Page 3 (f)

To include written and electronic communication and social media.

Page 4, Section 2.5, final paragraph

To include the sum £25 as the relevant value.

Page 4, Section 2.6, second paragraph

To be reworded to read “Employees must notify their supervisor of any relationship of their own or through family (be it business or social) to any contractor, supplier, job applicant....” for greater clarity.

Page 5, Section 2.7, 5th bullet point

Correct typographical error – “its functions”.

Page 5, Section 2.8

Delete the word “of” in the second line and include provision for permitted public service.

Page 6, Second whole paragraph

Delete “approval” from final line.

Page 7, Section 3, third paragraph

Include “and agreed protocols” after “procedures”.

Page 8, first paragraph

Reword the end of the sentence to read “may reasonably be regarded as affecting the reputation of the Council, the credibility of the service offered or the integrity of the employee”.

Page 10, section 8

Part way through the first paragraph to be reworded to read “Such behaviour may be physical, verbal, non-verbal or written.....”

(Suzan Hemingway - 01274 432496)

4. STANDARDS COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

Resolved –

That the meeting scheduled to be held on 5 December 2011 be rearranged to be an informal meeting to discuss the future of the Code of Conduct and the Standards Committee and that the political group whips be invited to attend.

(Suzan Hemingway – 01274 433696)

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