
REPORT OF STANDARDS COMMITTEE

MEETING HELD ON 5 JUNE 2008

Chairman:	* The Right Revd Peter Broadbent	
Councillors:	* Husain Akhtar	* Joyce Nickolay
	* Mitzi Green (1)	* Phillip O'Dell
	* Mrs Kinnear	* Jeremy Zeid (3)
Independent Persons:	Ms Sheila Darr	* Mr Mohammad Rizvi
	* Dr J Kirkland	

* Denotes Member present
(1) and (3) Denote category of Reserve Member

[Notes: (1) Councillor Osborn also attended this meeting. to speak on the item indicated at Minute ... below;

(2) Councillor Mrs Bath also attended the meeting].

PART I - RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION I - Ethical Standards

The Director of Legal and Governance Services presented a report, detailing the proposals for new working arrangements and sub-committees which were required in relation to the new system for handling complaints against Members and issues that required addressing by the Council, in accordance with the requirements resulting from the Local Government and Public Health Involvement in Health Act 2007. The Committee was advised of final drafting amendments to be incorporated within the procedures.

It was noted that the Regulations and new procedures came into effect on 8 May 2008 and that the Council was required to undertake a variety of procedures to comply with the requirements of the legislation, including publicising of the new arrangements, preparation of guidance and complaint form, together with ensuring appropriate training arrangements were arranged for members of Standards Committee. The Director then briefly outlined the operating arrangements for the new processes.

Resolved to RECOMMEND: (to Council)

- (1) That the revised Terms of Reference be approved and adopted into the Constitution, as detailed in Appendix 1.
 - Standards Committee
 - Assessment Sub-Committee
 - Review Sub-Committee
 - Hearing Sub-Committee
- (2) the membership of the Assessment and Review Sub-Committees be three persons, comprising one independent member, who shall Chair the meeting, and two elected Members reflecting political proportionality where possible;

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- (3) the membership of the Hearing Sub-Committee remain as five persons (whenever possible) comprising three independent members, one of whom shall Chair the meeting. This Sub-Committee should be politically balanced whenever possible. This Sub-Committee shall be quorate when one independent and one elected member from each political party on the Standards Committee are present;
 - (4) the members of the Standards Committee shall form a pool from which membership of all Sub-Committees shall be drawn;
 - (5) the Monitoring Officer should prepare a pre-assessment report in relation to any complaint for consideration by the Assessment Sub-Committee.
 - (6) the criteria set out at Appendix D to the report for the preparation of the Pre-assessment Report, Assessing Complaints, and Referrals to the Standards Board for England be approved;
 - (7) the member complained about should be informed of the complaint as soon as possible after the meeting of the Assessment Sub-Committee.
 - (8) that the process be reviewed by Standards Committee in March 2009.