

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Standards Committee was held on 6 June 2006.

PRESENT: G Fell (Chair)
Councillors Clark, J Jones and Williams
Independent Member:
R Anderson
Parish Council Member:
Councillor I Bruce

OFFICIALS: M Braithwaite, C Davies and R G Long

**** APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were submitted on behalf of Councillors B Taylor and T Ward.

**** DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest made at the meeting.

**** MINUTES**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 May were taken as read and approved as a correct record subject to the addition of Councillors B Taylor and T Ward to, and the deletion of, Mr Anderson's name from the list of those present.

**** MINUTES – STANDARDS PANEL (HEARINGS)**

The minutes of the Standards Panel (Hearings) held on 22 May 2006 were taken as read and approved as a correct record.

STANDARDS PANEL (HEARINGS) – DETAILED DETERMINATION – COUNCILLOR MCTIGUE

Further to the above meeting held on 22 May 2006, the Committee received, for information, copy of the detailed determination in relation to the outcome of the local investigation and determination of the complaint referred by the Standards Board England (SBE Ref No. 12302.05) in respect of Councillor McTigue.

STANDARDS COMMITTEE – WORK PROGRAMME 2006/2007

The Director of Legal and Democratic Services presented a report seeking the views of the Committee on the likely issues to be considered as part of a potential work programme during the Municipal Year 2005/2006.

The suggested items were as follows:

(a) Items to be addressed on a regular or annual basis:

- Standards Committee Annual Report
- Ombudsman's Annual Report
- Review of Members' Interests/Gifts and Hospitality
- Training – Standards Committees (e.g. Mock Hearings)
- Training – Councillors and Co-opted members (e.g. Induction/Planning/Licensing or Appeals)
- Training – Parish Councils
- Service Assurance Statement for the Statement of Internal Control
- Procurement Process
- Member Development Strategy

(b) One-Off Issues

Review Member/Officer Protocol
Code of Conduct for Employees
Corporate Governance
Corporate Governance in Schools
CPA Outcome
Review of Complaints Procedure
Review of Constitution
Review of Officer Scheme of Delegation
Protocol on mayoral/civic gifts
Local Investigation and Determination – Code of Conduct – Review of Complaints Procedures
Financial Governance Arrangements (Audit Committees)
Indemnities for Members – Costs of Local Investigations and Determinations
Review use of Whistle-Blowing Policy
Review of Independent Members
Adjudication Panel and Standards Board Decisions

Reference was also made to items considered at the last meeting of the Committee held on 8 May 2006, which had now been concluded:

(c) Completed Tasks:

Review of Guidance Licensing Committee
Review of Guidance Planning Committee
Member Development Strategy 2006/2007

ORDERED as follows:

1. That an annual work programme be established.
2. That as part of the work programme the Committee also conduct an Ethical Audit.
3. That officers be authorised to determine the work programme priority order subject to there being an even spread of issues between the respective meetings of the Committee.