

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

1. Membership - 9 (to include 3 non-elected Independent Members)
2. Quorum – 3 (to include one non-elected Independent Member)
3. Chair – The Committees and its Sub-Committees to be chaired by a non-elected Independent Member
4. Sub-Committees – 3
5. Terms of Reference
 - 5.1 To promote and maintain high standards of conduct by Councillors and Co-opted Members.
 - 5.2 To assist Councillors and Co-opted Members to observe the Members' Code of Conduct.
 - 5.3 To advise the Council on the adoption or revision of the Members' Code of Conduct.
 - 5.4 To monitor the operation of the Members' Code of Conduct.
 - 5.5 To advise, train or arrange to train Councillors and Co-opted Members on matters relating to the Members' Code of Conduct.
 - 5.6 Responsibility for granting dispensations to Councillors and Co-opted Members from requirements relating to interests set out in the Members' Code of Conduct.
 - 5.7 Responsibility for the granting and supervision of exemption from politically restricted posts as provided in Section 202 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.
 - 5.8 To receive allegations that a Member or Co-opted Member (or former Member or Co-opted Member) has failed, or may have failed, to comply with the Members' Code of Conduct.
 - 5.9 To process such an allegation described in 5.8 above in the manner set out in Part 3 of the Local Government Act 000 as amended by Chapter 1 of Part 10 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.
 - 5.10 To deal with any matters referred from the Council or any other body.
 - 5.11 To consider reports and other communications from external and internal audit relating to good governance and the ethical

standards of this Authority and, without any limitation on the statutory powers of the Standards Committee, making recommendations to the Executive or a Committee of the Council following such consideration.

- 5.12 To review aspects of the Constitution relating to other terms of reference for this Committee including matters covered by the ethical governance audit.
- 5.13 To receive and consider general reports and communications from the Ombudsman and, at the discretion of the Committee, reporting and making recommendations to the appropriate body.
- 5.14 To review and make recommendations on protocols and employment contract conditions dealing with ethical standards for officers' behaviour.
- 5.15 To consider and make recommendations as appropriate on all protocols affecting the conduct of Members and officers.
- 5.16 To review the Register of Members' Interests at such times and in such a manner as the Committee feels appropriate.
- 5.17 Any other functions allocated to Standards Committees under any enactment from time to time.

5.18 Assessment Sub-Committee

Quorum 3 (including an Independent Member)

Terms of Reference –

To make an initial assessment of written allegations that Members have failed or may have failed to comply with the Members' Code of Conduct.

5.19 Review Sub-Committee

Quorum 3 (including an Independent Member)

Terms of Reference

On request, to review the decision on an initial assessment by the Assessment Sub-Committee. (The Review Sub-Committee must comprise different Members to that which made the initial assessment).

5.20 Hearing and Consideration Sub-Committee

Quorum 3 (including an Independent Member)

Terms of Reference:

To receive and consider an investigative report of the Monitoring Officer or an Ethical Standards Officer of the Standards Board for England.