

**Meeting:** Standards Committee

**Date:** 17 March 2003

**NEW TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

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**1 PURPOSE**

To advise the Committee of its additional Terms of Reference.

**2 BACKGROUND**

At its last meeting this Committee recommended to Full Council that its Terms of Reference should be extended and the Full Council on 26 February agreed those recommendations and made the appropriate delegations.

The complete Terms of Reference of this Committee, including the new additions, are attached in the Appendix to this Report and the Constitution will be amended accordingly.

Recommendation to note the report.

**4 IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 All implications have been addressed in previous reports.

**5 RECOMMENDATIONS**

To note the report.

## APPENDIX

Terms of Reference of Standards Committee as at 27 February 2003.

The Standards Committee will have the following roles and functions:

- (a) promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct by councillors and co-opted members;
- (b) assisting councillors and co-opted members to observe the Members' Code of Conduct;
- (c) advising the Council on the adoption or revision of the Members' Code of Conduct;
- (d) monitoring the operation of the Members' Code of Conduct;
- (e) advising, training or arranging to train councillors and co-opted members on matters relating to the Members' Code of Conduct;
- (f) granting dispensations to councillors and co-opted members from requirements relating to interests set out in the Members' Code of Conduct;
- (g) dealing with any reports from a case tribunal or interim case tribunal, and any report from the monitoring officer on any matter which is referred by an ethical standards officer to the monitoring officer;
- (h) dealing with any matters referred from the Full Council or any other body;
- (i) considering 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;
- (j) reviewing aspects of the Constitution relating to other terms of reference for this Committee including matters covered by the ethical governance audit;
- (k) receiving and considering general reports and communications from the Ombudsman and, at the discretion of the Committee, reporting and making recommendations to the appropriate body;
- (l) reviewing and making recommendations on protocols and employment contract conditions dealing with ethical standards for officers' behaviour;
- (m) considering and making recommendations as appropriate on all protocols affecting the conduct of Members and officers;
- (n) reviewing the register of members' interests at such times and in such a manner as the Committee feels appropriate.