

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

1. Membership - 9 – Comprising 6 Councillors and 3 non-elected Independent Members
2. Quorum - 3 – to include an Independent Member
3. Chair – The Standards Committee and its Sub-Committees must be chaired by a non-elected, Independent Member.
4. Sub-Committees - 2
5. Terms of Reference

Standards Committee

- 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 restrictive posts as provided in Chapter 2, Part 10 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 4.8 above in the manner set out in Part 3 of the Local Government Act 2000 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 Full 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

Assessment Sub-Committee

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

Review Sub-Committee

- 5.19 On request, to review the decision on an initial assessment (5.18 above) - This Sub-Committee must comprise different Members to that which made the initial assessment in 5.18 above.