

## STANDARDS COMMITTEE DECISIONS 30 AUGUST 2012

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER	SUBJECT AND DECISION	DECISION REFERRAL	PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR ACTION
1.	<p><b>Election of Chair</b> Councillor O'Neill was elected Chair for this meeting.</p>		Assistant Director (Democratic Services)
2.	<p><b>Appointment of Vice-Chair</b> That the appointment of Vice-Chair be deferred until the next meeting of the Standards Committee.</p>		Assistant Director (Democratic Services)
5.	<p><b>Minutes</b> That the Minutes of Standards Committee held on 19 June 2012, be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.</p>		Assistant Director (Democratic Services)
6.	<p><b>Disclosure of Interests</b> Councillor Hopkins declared a personal interest in Agenda item 9 (Co-option of Parish Members), as he knew two of the people concerned, and took no part in the discussion or voting.</p>		Assistant Director (Democratic Services)
8.	<p><b>Terms of Reference</b> That the Terms of Reference of the new Standards Committee, and the presentation on its role, be noted.</p>		Assistant Director (Democratic Services)

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9.	<p><b>Co-option of Parish Members</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the Council be recommended to approve, the co-option of three non-voting parish members with previous Standards Committee experience, namely Councillors David Livingstone, Michael Geddes and Norman Wilkes, to sit on the Committee up until 1 May 2013.</li> <li>2. That the Monitoring Officer be instructed to approach those Members and invite them to attend Standards Committee training sessions as appropriate.</li> <li>3. That the Monitoring Officer be instructed to send a formal letter of invitation to the Parish Councillors and the clerks of the Parish Councils concerned.</li> <li>4. That the Monitoring Officer be instructed, prior to the final Standards Committee meeting of the Council year (2012-2013), to undertake a recruitment exercise and to present a list of names, and other details for consideration of co-option by the Standards Committee for the 2013/14 Council year.</li> </ol>	Council	<p>Assistant Director (Democratic Services)</p> <p>Assistant Director (Law &amp; Governance)</p> <p>Assistant Director (Law &amp; Governance)</p> <p>Assistant Director (Law &amp; Governance)</p>

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9. Contd.	<p><b>Co-option of Parish Members</b></p> <p>5. That the Monitoring Officer be instructed to seek to appoint a co-opted fourth Parish Member at the earliest opportunity, to ensure that appropriate training, and experience can be gained prior to May 2013.</p>		Assistant Director (Law & Governance)
10.	<p><b>Independent Persons</b></p> <p>1. That the Council be recommended that, subject to the transitional provisions contained in the Localism Act 2011 (Commencement No. 6 and Transitional Savings and Transitory Provisions) Order 2012 (as amended), the following persons be appointed as Independent Persons for a period of four years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Maureen Briggs</li> <li>(b) Christopher Ensor</li> <li>(c) Vasco Fernandes</li> <li>(d) Christopher Fogden</li> <li>(e) John Jones</li> <li>(f) Michael Collins Jones</li> <li>(g) Martin Leppert</li> <li>(h) Timothy Mainwaring</li> <li>(i) John Mackay</li> <li>(j) Alexandra di Stefano</li> </ul>	Council	Assistant Director (Democratic Services)

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10. Contd.	<p><b>Independent Persons</b></p> <p>2. That it be noted, that Christopher Fogden, as a previous Independent Member for Milton Keynes Council and appointed after 24 July 2012, will only be able to act as an Independent Person for Milton Keynes Council until 1 July 2013.</p> <p>3. That approval in principle be given to a system of payment which includes a retainer for each Independent Person, 1/5 paid by each authority, and a 'per case' fee paid by the instructing authority.</p> <p>4. That agreement of payment arrangements be delegated to the Monitoring Officer, in line with the principle at 3 above.</p> <p>5. That the Monitoring Officer report back to the Committee on payment arrangements and also provide a regular update of payments to Independent Persons to each meeting of the Standards Committee.</p> <p>6. That the Monitoring Officer inform the appointed Independent Persons of their appointment and terms of engagement.</p> <p>7. That the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the other authorities, agree training provision for the Independent Persons.</p>		<p>Assistant Director (Law &amp; Governance)</p> <p>Assistant Director (Law &amp; Governance)</p> <p>Assistant Director (Law &amp; Governance)</p> <p>Assistant Director (Law &amp; Governance)</p> <p>Assistant Director (Law &amp; Governance)</p> <p>Assistant Director (Law &amp; Governance)</p>



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12.	<p><b>Dispensations</b></p> <p>1. That dispensations be granted from Section 31(4) of the Localism Act 2011 on the basis that without the dispensation the number of persons prohibited by section 31(4) from participating in any particular business would be so great a proportion of the body transacting the business as to impede the transaction of the business, such dispensations to be made in respect of all Members of Milton Keynes Council and take effect from 30 August 2012 for the period of four years:</p> <p>(a) housing, where the Member is a tenant of the authority; provided that those functions do not relate particularly to that Member's tenancy or lease;</p> <p>(b) school meals or school transport and travelling expenses, where the Member is a parent or guardian of a child in full time education, or is a parent governor of a school, unless it relates particularly to the school which the child attends;</p>		Assistant Director (Law & Governance)

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12. Contd.	<p><b>Dispensations</b></p> <p>(c) an allowance, payment, pension or indemnity given to Members;</p> <p>(d) any ceremonial honour given to Members; and</p> <p>(e) setting Council Tax or a precept under the Local Government Finance Act 1992.</p> <p>2. That Council be recommended to designate the Monitoring Officer as the Proper Officer of the Authority for the purposes of written requests by a Member(s) or co-opted Member(s) of the Authority for the grant of a dispensation.</p> <p>3. That consideration of the future arrangement for granting dispensation under Section 33 of the Localism Act 2011 be deferred until the next meeting of the Standards Committee.</p>	Council	<p>Assistant Director (Law &amp; Governance)</p> <p>Assistant Director (Democratic Services)</p> <p>Assistant Director (Law &amp; Governance)</p>