



Minutes of the meeting of the STANDARDS COMMITTEE held on TUESDAY 29 JULY 2014 at 6.00 pm

Present: Councillor Eastman (Chair)
Councillors M Burke, Clifton, McDonald, McPake, McKenzie, Nash and Wallis.
Parish Councillors Ballantyne, Carman and Walker.

Officers: S Gerrard (Monitoring Officer/Interim Service Director ([Legal and Democratic Services]) and T Milner (Committee Manager).

Apologies: Councillor V Hopkins

Also Present: Councillors Legg and Lewis.

ST04 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RESOLVED -

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee on 15 April 2014 and of the special meeting of the Standards Committee held on 11 June 2014, be approved and signed by the Chair as correct records, subject to the deletion of Councillors Brunning, Webb and C Williams from 'Also Present' in the Minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2014.

ST05 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None declared.

ST06 COMPLAINTS AND INVESTIGATIONS - MONITORING OFFICER'S REPORT

The Committee considered an oral update on Complaints and Investigations from the Monitoring Officer.

The Monitoring Officer reported that he had consulted an Independent Person on a case received during the period September 2013 to 31 March 2014, and in accordance with his delegated powers, he had determined that the case should be considered by an Assessment Sub-Committee.

The Monitoring Officer advised that the Council had not received any complaints or investigations in respect of ethical standards issues, which had required him to use his delegated powers, during the period from 1 April 2014 to 30 June 2014.

The Committee heard that the first phase of the Code of Conduct training for Members was being held on 8 September 2014, and that a second phase of Code of Conduct training would be organised during the autumn 2014.

The Monitoring Officer reported that he would be looking into the compliance by Parish Councils in respect of the legislation requirements regarding the publication of their Code of Conduct and the declarations of interests by Parish Members.

RESOLVED –

1. That the oral update be noted.
2. That a Standards Assessment Sub-Committee be scheduled to consider whether a complaint should be rejected or referred to a Hearing Sub-Committee Panel for investigation.
3. That, the second phase of the Code of Conduct training for Parish and Borough Members be rolled out during autumn 2014.
4. That, the Monitoring Officer be requested to advise at the next meeting on 9 September 2014 as to the level of compliance by Parish Councils with the provisions relating to the publication of their Code of Conduct and Member's Interests.

ST07

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Committee noted that the next scheduled meeting was on Tuesday 9 September 2014 at 6.00pm.

THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 6.06 PM