

### BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

#### **MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

THURSDAY 11TH JULY 2013 AT 6.00 P.M.

#### COMMITTEE ROOM, THE COUNCIL HOUSE, BURCOT LANE, BROMSGROVE

MEMBERS: Councillors: Dr. D. W. P. Booth JP, M. A. Bullivant, Dr. B. T. Cooper, S. J. Dudley, Mrs. C. M. McDonald, R. J. Shannon, Mrs. M. A. Sherrey JP, Mrs. C. J. Spencer, L. J. Turner

> Parish Councils' Representatives (non-voting co-opted): Mr. J. Cypher and Mr. I. A. Hodgetts

Observer – Deputy Parish Councils' Representative (non-voting coopted): Mrs. K. May

#### <u>AGENDA</u>

- 1. Election of Chairman for the ensuing municipal year
- 2. Election of Vice-Chairman for the ensuing municipal year
- 3. To receive apologies for absence and notification of substitutes
- 4. Declarations of Interest
- 5. To confirm the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 20th March 2013 (Pages 1 - 6)

6. Monitoring Officer's Report (Pages 7 - 10)

[To receive a report from the Monitoring Officer on any matters of relevance to the Committee.]

7. Parish Councils' Representatives' Report

[To receive an oral report from the Parish Councils' Representatives on any matters of relevance to the Committee.]

8. Localism Act 2011 - Updated Arrangements for Handling Standards Complaints Against Members (Pages 11 - 24)

[To consider issues identified by Officers as part of a 12 month review of the new Standards regime introduced in July 2012.]

9. Work Programme (Pages 25 - 30)

[To consider the future Work Programme of the Committee.]

- 10. To consider any other business, details of which have been notified to the Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services prior to the commencement of the meeting and which the Chairman, by reason of special circumstances, considers to be of so urgent a nature that it cannot wait until the next meeting
- 11. To consider, and if considered appropriate, to pass the following resolution to exclude the public from the meeting during the consideration of item(s) of business containing exempt information:-

[Should it prove necessary, in the opinion of the Chief Executive, to exclude the public from the meeting at any point during the proceedings in relation to any item(s) of business on the grounds that either exempt and/or confidential information is likely to be divulged, the following resolution(s) will be moved:

"That under Section 100 I of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, it/they involve the likely disclosure of <u>exempt</u> information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act, as amended, the relevant paragraphs of that part being (...to be specified by the Chairman at the meeting), and that it is in the public interest to do so.", and/or

"That under Section 100 A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, it/they involve the likely disclosure of <u>confidential</u> information which would be in breach of an obligation of confidence."]

K. DICKS Chief Executive







# **INFORMATION FOR THE PUBLIC**

## Access to Information

The Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 widened the rights of press and public to attend Local Authority meetings and to see certain documents. Recently the Freedom of Information Act 2000 has further broadened these rights, and limited exemptions under the 1985 Act.

- You can attend all Council, Cabinet and Committee/Board meetings, except for any part of the meeting when the business would disclose confidential or "exempt" information.
- You can inspect agenda and public reports at least five days before the date of the meeting.
- You can inspect minutes of the Council, Cabinet and its Committees/Boards for up to six years following a meeting.
- You can have access, upon request, to the background papers on which reports are based for a period of up to six years from the date of the meeting. These are listed at the end of each report.
- An electronic register stating the names and addresses and electoral areas of all Councillors with details of the membership of all Committees etc. is available on our website.
- A reasonable number of copies of agendas and reports relating to items to be considered in public will be made available to the public attending meetings of the Council, Cabinet and its Committees/Boards.
- You have access to a list specifying those powers which the Council has delegated to its Officers indicating also the titles of the Officers concerned, as detailed in the Council's Constitution, Scheme of Delegation.

You can access the following documents:

- Meeting Agendas
- Meeting Minutes
- > The Council's Constitution

at <u>www.bromsgrove.gov.uk</u>