



BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 16TH OCTOBER 2008 AT 6.00 P.M.

CONFERENCE ROOM, THE COUNCIL HOUSE, BURCOT LANE, BROMSGROVE

MEMBERS: Independent Members: Mrs. N. E. Trigg (Chairman), Mr. N. A. Burke (Vice-Chairman) and Mr. S. E. Allard

Councillors: Miss D. H. Campbell JP, S. P. Shannon and E. C. Tibby

Parish Councils' Representatives: Mr. J. Cypher and Mr. I. A. Hodgetts

Observer: Mr. S. Malek (Non-voting Deputy Parish Councils' Representative)

AGENDA

1. To receive apologies for absence and notification of substitutes
2. Declarations of Interest
3. To confirm the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 14th August 2008 (Pages 1 - 6)
4. Monitoring Officer's Update Report (Pages 7 - 18)

[To receive a report from the Monitoring Officer on matters of relevance to the Committee, and to include the following:

- (a) Member Investigations and Associated Matters;
- (b) Complaints for Local Assessment; and
- (c) Member Training:
 - (i) To note Member training relating to ethical governance issues which has been undertaken since the last meeting of the Committee and training which has been arranged for the future;
 - (ii) Update on Training Programme for Parish Councils; and
 - (iii) Review of the Ethical Framework elements of the Member Development Programme.]

5. Parish Councils' Representatives' Update Report
[To receive an oral update from the Parish Councils' Representatives on matters of relevance to the Committee.]
6. Issues arising from Standards Board for England Bulletin 40 (Pages 19 - 22)
[To consider two issues arising from the Standards Board for England (SBE) Bulletin 40 relating to adjournment of local assessment decisions and joint Ombudsman/SBE investigations.]
7. Review of the Council's Confidential Reporting Code (Pages 23 - 38)
[To undertake a review the Council's Confidential Reporting Code.]
8. Consultation Paper on new Codes of Conduct for Local Authority Members and Employees (Pages 39 - 84)
[To consider the Department of Communities and Local Government consultation paper entitled "Communities in Control: Real people, real power - Codes of conduct for local authority members and employees" and to make recommendations to Council on the Council's response.]
9. Annual Ombudsman Statistics (Pages 85 - 104)
[To provide the Committee with information regarding the Council's Annual Letter from the Local Government Ombudsman's office as to complaints recorded against the Council during the 12 month period ending 31st March 2008, together with information regarding the Council's performance compared with other districts in Worcestershire.]
10. Work Programme (Pages 105 - 110)
[To consider the Work Programme for the Committee.]
11. 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

K. DICKS
Chief Executive

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8th October 2008