

“Local First Sieve”

12:00-8:00pm, 10 June, 2008

Cannock Chase District Council Offices

From April 2008, all complaints of misconduct by Members will go direct to the local authority, and the Standards Committee will have to decide whether each complaint appears to relate to the Code of Conduct and whether it merits investigation.

This training seminar takes Members and Officers from the initial complaint, through the first sieve process, into the investigation process and the preparation of the investigation report. It provides practical advice on the preparation for and conduct of local standards hearings, including sanctions and appeals.

The training centres on a role-play in which Members and Officers will take the part of the Referrals Panel of Middleton District Council, faced at their first meeting with 5 complaints against District Councillors and 5 complaints against Parish and Town Councillors. The panel will have to determine whether each complaint relates to the Code of Conduct and whether it merits investigation, so the seminar gives very hands-on experience of the task to come. This will be a perfect opportunity to learn in a safe environment how the new Standards arrangements will be run.

Please support this local event in the West Midlands. This will be a great opportunity for Standards Board members to discuss current topics and exchange experiences with colleagues. The cost will be £110 per person, including tea/coffee and lunch. In an effort to accommodate those Councillors who are in paid employment, the session will start at noon.

Part 1

Start at 12.00 with a buffet lunch

Break for tea/coffee mid way, ending at 4.00pm

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Tea/coffee and sandwiches 4:00-5:00pm

Part 2

Start at 5.00pm

Break for tea/coffee mid way ending at 8.00pm

Please RSVP to Jan Turner, Training Officer at Cannock Chase District Council by 4 April, 2008.

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