

**BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**14 DECEMBER 2006**

**LOCAL INVESTIGATION OF COMPLAINT TO THE STANDARDS BOARD**

Responsible Portfolio Holder	Councillor Mrs. Spencer
Responsible Head of Service	Claire Felton - Head of Legal and Democratic Services

**1. SUMMARY**

- 1.1 To make arrangements, if appropriate, for a special meeting of the committee to consider an alleged breach of the Code of Conduct made to the Standards Board for England.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 If appropriate, to arrange a special meeting of this Committee to consider the Deputy Monitoring Officer's report on an alleged breach of the Code of Conduct

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 In October 2006 the Standards Board for England wrote to the Monitoring Officer regarding an allegation (ref SBE16030.06) that a councillor had breached the Code of Conduct and referred the allegation for local investigation. At the time of writing this report the Deputy Monitoring Officer is in the process of conducting the investigation and it is anticipated that a final report will have been concluded by the date of this meeting.
- 3.2 If that report concludes that no breach has occurred the Committee must decide if it accepts that finding or if it considers that the matter should be considered at a specially convened meeting.
- 3.3 If that report concludes that a breach has occurred it will be necessary to arrange a special meeting of this Committee to make a final determination on whether the Code of Conduct was breached. This hearing must be held within 3 months of issuing the final report.

**4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 None

**5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The Local Authorities (Code of Conduct) (Local Determination) Regulations 2003 apply.

**6. CORPORATE OBJECTIVES**

6.1 Improvement – Reputation and Performance

**7. RISK MANAGEMENT**

7.1 The arrangements set out in this report are necessary to ensure that the Council meets its legal obligations.

**8. CUSTOMER IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 None

**9. OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

Procurement Issues	None
Personnel Implications	None
Governance/Performance Management	Ethical Governance and Statutory requirements
Community Safety including Section 17 of Crime and Disorder Act 1998	None
Policy	Constitution
Environmental	None
Equalities and Diversity	None

**10. OTHERS CONSULTED ON THE REPORT**

Please include the following table and indicate 'Yes' or 'No' as appropriate. Delete the words in italics.

Portfolio Holder	No
Acting Chief Executive	No
Corporate Director (Services)	No
Assistant Chief Executive	No

Head of Service	N/a
Head of Financial Services	No
Head of Legal & Democratic Services	N/a
Head of Organisational Development & HR	No
Corporate Procurement Team	No

**11. APPENDICES**

Deputy Monitoring Officer's Report – to follow

**12. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

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