

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

24TH MARCH 2010

LINKS BETWEEN THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE, THE CABINET AND THE SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

Responsible Portfolio Holder	Councillor Geoff Denaro
Responsible Head of Service	Claire Felton, Monitoring Officer and Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services
Non-Key Decision	

1. SUMMARY

This report requests the Standards Committee to consider whether it is appropriate to develop links between the Standards Committee, the Cabinet and/or the Senior Management Team, and if so, how those links should be developed and what form they should take.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Standards Committee develops links with the Cabinet and Senior Management Team in a format to be agreed.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 At present no formal reporting or links exist between the Standards Committee and the leadership of the Council. Whilst there is no requirement for this, Standards for England has indicated that it considers it to be good practice for such links to exist in order for the Standards Committee to fulfil its proactive role of improving standards.
- 3.2 The Portfolio Holder with responsibility for ethical governance will be present at the meeting to discuss this issue with the Committee in order that the Committee can explore ways in which this might be developed in a positive and useful manner.
- 3.3 If links between the Standards Committee and the Cabinet are to be developed, care should be taken to ensure that the independence of the Committee is not seen to be compromised; on the other hand, the legislative framework does permit up to one member of the Cabinet to be a member of the Standards Committee.
- 3.4 Similarly, no formal arrangements currently exist for liaison between the Standards Committee and the Senior Management Team.

3.5 The Committee is requested to consider whether it believes that such links would be beneficial, and if so, to explore how they could be implemented.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The composition and functions of Standards Committee is set out in the Local Government Act 2000 ss53-54 and the Standards Committee (England) Regulations 2008. Paragraph 4(1)(b) of the Regulations sets out the requirement that, where an authority is operating executive arrangements, not more than one member of its Standards Committee may be a member of the executive.

6. COUNCIL OBJECTIVES

CO2 – Improvement, Priorities – Reputation and Performance

7. RISK MANAGEMENT INCLUDING HEALTH & SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

There are no risks associated with the details included in this report

8. CUSTOMER IMPLICATIONS

N/a

9. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

None

10. VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

None

11. CLIMATE CHANGE AND CARBON IMPLICATIONS

None

12. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Procurement Issues	None
Personnel	None

Governance/Performance Management	None
Community Safety including Section 17 of Crime and Disorder Act 1998	None
Policy	None
Biodiversity	None

13. OTHERS CONSULTED ON THE REPORT

Portfolio Holder	Yes
Joint Chief Executive	No
Executive Director - Partnerships and Projects	N/a
Executive Director - Services	N/a
Assistant Chief Executive	No
Head of Service	Yes
Head of Financial Services	No
Head of Legal, Equalities & Democratic Services	Yes
Head of Organisational Development & HR	N/a
Corporate Procurement Team	No

14. WARDS AFFECTED

All wards

15. APPENDICES

None

16. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

CONTACT OFFICER

Name: Debbie Warren
E Mail: d.warren@bromsgrove.gov.uk
Tel: (01527) 881609