

Standards Committee – 22 May 2008

Minutes of the meeting of the **Standards Committee** held on **22 May 2008** when there were present:-

DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBERS

Cllr C I Black
Cllr P A Capon (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr D Merrick
Cllr M J Steptoe
Cllr J Thomass

INDEPENDENT MEMBERS

Mr D J Cottis
Mr S Shadbolt

OFFICERS PRESENT

R J Honey - Corporate Director (Internal Services)
D Brittnell - PA to Corporate Director (Internal Services)
J Bostock - Committee Services Manager

177 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

Mr D J Cottis was appointed Chairman of the Standards Committee for the ensuing year.

178 DELIVERING THE GOODS – SEVENTH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STANDARDS BOARD FOR ENGLAND

Mr D J Cottis and Councillor J Thomass confirmed that they would be able to attend the Seventh Annual Assembly. Councillors P A Capon and D Merrick indicated that it may be possible that they would be able to attend. Mr B M Flynn would be approached on his availability. Officers would also approach Assembly organisers on the possibility of increasing the number to four delegates.

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved

The press and public be excluded from the meeting for the remaining business on the grounds that exempt information as defined in paragraph 10 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 would be disclosed.

179 CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINT – SBE21597.08

The Committee considered an exempt report on the Monitoring Officers' final findings following referral for investigation of a complaint (Case SBE21597.08).

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The Monitoring Officer confirmed that report recommendations remained appropriate and advised on the complainant's rights.

There was some discussion on features of the case and whether there were any implications. Reference was made to the importance of the correct interpretation of the Code of Conduct.

Resolved

That the findings of the Monitoring Officer, as set out in the exempt report that there had been no breach of the Code, be agreed. (CD(IS))

Prior to the close of the meeting it was noted that the Monitoring Officer would be reporting to the next scheduled Standards Committee on a process for managing any hearings that may be required. It was agreed that, should there be a need for a hearing in the meantime, the appointees should be agreed by the Monitoring Officer in consultation with the Chairman. It was also agreed that it would be appropriate for the Monitoring Officer to make arrangements for a training moot on hearings. (CD(IS))

The meeting closed at 6.32 pm.

Chairman

Date

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