

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 17 JULY 2017

PRESENT:- Councillor David Wood (Chair), Councillor Jane Milner-Barry, Councillor Teresa Page, Councillor Kevin Parry, Councillor Timothy Swinyard, Councillor Steve Weisinger, Councillor Caryl Sydney-Smith (Deputy), Mr Paul Morris, Mr Keith Strickland, Mr Trevor Davies and Mr Richard Hailstone.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Eric Shaw, Councillor Vera Tomlinson, Councillor Joe Tray, Mr David Dawson and Mick Compton.

1. Appointment of Vice-Chair of the Committee

Resolved – That Councillor Steve Weisinger be Vice-Chair of the Standards Committee for the Municipal Year 2017/2018.

2. Declarations of Interest

The Chair reminded members of the need to declare known interests in any matters to be considered at the meeting.

No declarations of interest were made.

3. Minutes

Resolved – That the minutes of the meeting held on 27th March 2017 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

4. Public Question Time

There were no public questions.

5. Exempt Items - Exclusion of Press and Public

Resolved – That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded during the discussion of the matters referred to in the item listed below on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the respective paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

| <u>Item No.</u> | <u>Paragraph Nos.</u> | <u>Minute No.</u> |
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6. Standards Committee Annual Report

The Committee was asked to consider its Draft Annual Report for 2016/17 which provided a record of the work of the Standards Committee for the period 1st June 2016 to 31st May 2017.

Resolved – (1) That the Draft Standards Committee Annual Report 2016/17, attached at Appendix 1 to the report, be agreed.

(2) That the Director of Law and Democratic Services be authorised to finalise the document for publication on the Council's website.

7. Annual Work Programme

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Law and Democratic Services inviting the Committee to agree its Work Programme for the 2017/2018 Municipal Year.

Resolved – (1) That the Committee's draft Work Programme for 2017/2018, as attached at Appendix 1 to the report, be agreed.

(2) That it be noted that the proposed work programme was sufficiently flexible to accommodate any unforeseen matters that might arise in relation to the Council's Ethical Framework.

8. Ethical Framework Update

The Committee received a report from the Director of Law and Democratic Services providing an update on matters relating to the Ethical Framework, including:

- Dispensations
- Membership of the Standards Committee – Parish Representatives
- Draft Annual Governance Statement
- Summary of Code of Conduct Complaints
- Member Training

Resolved – (1) That the Ethical Framework Update report be noted.

(2) That the draft Annual Governance Statement, attached at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved to be signed off by the Leader and Chief Executive.

9. Ethical Compliance Report

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Law and Democratic Services regarding the outcome of various ethical compliance matters, including the details of any Whistleblowing cases, breaches of the Member / Officer Protocol, and Code of Conduct complaints received since the last Committee, and the outcome of any completed investigations in relation to these.

Resolved – That the Ethical Compliance report be noted.