

Minutes

Standards Committee
Wednesday, 3 June 2009
Meeting held at High Street, Uxbridge, UB8 1UW



Published on: 10 June 2009
Come into effect on: Immediately (or call-in date)

Members Present:

Allan Edwards (Chairman), Malcolm Ellis (Vice-Chairman), James Keys (Independent member), Councillors Philip Corthorne, Catherine Dann, Paul Harmsworth, John Hensley, Mo Khursheed and David Yarrow

Officers Present: Raj Alagh and Lloyd White

Also Present: Councillor Mary O'Connor

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest received

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings of the Committee held on 10 March and 14 May 2009 were agreed as an accurate record.

3. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was confirmed that the business of the meeting would be conducted in public with the exception of item 8 on the agenda

4. STANDARDS COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Chairman, in welcoming new Members, outlined the Terms of Reference of the Committee which, it was noted, were a standard set, common to most authorities but also tailored to suit Hillingdon's requirements. It was confirmed that officers working for the Council were also obliged to make declarations of interests in planning matters should they arise and it was agreed that the Monitoring Officer would circulate a reminder to this effect.

5. SETTING HIGH ETHICAL STANDARDS

The Committee reviewed the action plan arising from the Audit Commission report dated June 2008, 'Setting High Ethical Standards'. Members were pleased to note that all the actions were either complete or ongoing.

6. STANDARDS BOARD FOR ENGLAND BULLETIN NO.S 42 & 43

The latest editions of 'The Bulletin' were noted. The Standards Committee (Further Provisions) Regulations 2009 were highlighted which included provision for the creation of joint Standards Committees. However it was confirmed that there were no proposals for Hillingdon to create a joint committee with other authorities.

7. COMPLAINTS MONITORING

This item was discussed in Part II without the press or public present as it contained confidential or exempt information as defined in the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985.

It was agreed that the Monitoring Officer would circulate the process for the hearing of complaints to all Members and substitute Members of the Committee.