

Minutes

Standards Committee
Wednesday, 27 February 2013
Meeting held at Committee Room 3 - Civic Centre,
High Street, Uxbridge UB8 1UW



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Come into effect on: Immediately

Members Present: Councillors Riley (Chairman), Lewis (Vice-Chairman), Corthorne, East and Hensley

Officers Present: Messrs Alagh and White

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Harmsworth for whom Councillor East was substituting.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 4 September 2012 be taken as read and confirmed.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. CONFIRMATION THAT ALL ITEMS MARKED PART I WILL BE CONSIDERED IN PUBLIC AND THOSE MARKED PART II, IN PRIVATE

5. REVIEW OF WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee's work programme was noted. A full report reviewing the first year's operation of the new Code of Conduct would be submitted to the Committee in June.

6. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS AND CO-OPTED MEMBERS - UPDATE

The Committee noted a verbal update with regard to the new Code of Conduct adopted by Council in July 2012. To date 58 out of 67 Members and co-opted members had received training on the Code. The Committee were anxious to ensure that all Members received the training and instructed officers to remind those Members that had not attended that they should do so and that the training was regarded as obligatory by the Committee.

The Committee noted that the process for the recruitment of an independent person would begin shortly and that suitable candidates would be presented for Members' consideration in June for recommendation to Council in July.

RESOLVED: That the Head of Democratic Services write to those Members who had yet to receive the Code of Conduct training, to remind them that this Committee regard the training as obligatory and to request that they arrange a training session with the Monitoring Officer / Deputy Monitoring Officer as soon as possible.

7. GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY ANNUAL REPORT

The Committee noted the annual report detailing the offers of gifts and hospitality made to officers and Members in the last 12 months. It was agreed that a reminder be sent to Members of the importance of making a declaration even when such offers were declined.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted and the Head of Democratic Services write to all Members to remind them of the importance of making a declaration even when offers of gifts and hospitality are declined.

8. STANDARDS AND ETHICS INDICATORS 2012

The Committee considered the annual report detailing a range of Standards and ethics indicators for the previous 12 months.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

9. COMPLAINTS MONITORING

This item was discussed in Part II as it contained confidential information as defined in the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985.

The Committee noted details of the complaints made against Members in the last six months.