

**MINUTES OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE
MONDAY, 4 SEPTEMBER 2006**

MEMBERS:	Councillors Edge, Egan, Khan, Lister, Williams, Winskill
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INDEPENDENT MEMBERS:	Ms I. Francis (Chair), Mr R. Lovegrove and Ms C. Sykes.
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Apologies Mr N. Weber (Vice Chair)

MINUTE NO.	SUBJECT/DECISION
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STCO14.	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Mr Nicholas Weber.</p>
STCO15.	<p>URGENT BUSINESS</p> <p>There was no such business.</p>
STCO16.	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>There were no such declarations.</p>
STCO17.	<p>MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING</p> <p>Matters arising:</p> <p>Members agreed the following alterations to the minutes of the meeting of 26 June 2006:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - That the attendance list should be modified to read as follows: <p>MEMBERS: Councillors Egan, Khan, Kober, Lister, Williams, Winskill</p> <p>INDEPENDENT MEMBERS: Ms I Francis (Chair), Mr R Lovegrove, Ms C Sykes</p> <p>APOLOGIES: Mr N Weber (Vice Chair), Councillors Edge, Mughal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minute STC006: that 'Doctor' be deleted and be replaced with 'Dr.' - Minute STC010: that we delete Resolution 2: "That the fee given for next year's Mayor Making be more approximate than the £14.65 average given for this year. - Minute STC010: that we delete the apostrophe in the minute title, making Standard's read 'Standards' - That the second resolution of minute STC010 be deleted. After discussion, Members agreed to ask the Monitoring Officer to seek

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	<p>clarification on the provision of advice under the Code of Conduct.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the minutes of the Standards Committee meeting held on 26 June 2006 be confirmed and signed as an accurate record, subject to the amendments specified above. 2. That the Monitoring Officer seek guidance from other Local Authorities and the Standards Board for England on the provision of advice concerning the determination of the value of hospitality including Council corporate events, under the Code of Conduct.
<p>STCO18.</p>	<p>CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</p> <p>The Chair was pleased to announce to the committee that the Standards Committee report up to Council was noted at the Full Council meeting of 17 July 2006.</p>
<p>STCO19.</p>	<p>MONITORING OFFICER'S REPORT ON REFERRALS RECEIVED FROM THE STANDARDS BOARD FOR ENGLAND</p> <p>The Monitoring Officer had received no referrals from the Standards Board for England.</p>
<p>STCO20.</p>	<p>ETHICAL GOVERNANCE REPORT AND ACTION PLAN</p> <p>The committee received this report to inform it of the outcome of the Ethical Governance Audit carried out by the Audit Commission, and the draft action plan for implementation.</p> <p>It was noted that there had been significant improvements in the Council's arrangements for promoting Ethical Governance over the previous 2 years, and that the recommendations contained within the report were in many cases a continuation of work already underway.</p> <p>Members noted that those individuals named on the Action Plan were aware of their responsibilities, and that progress was being made. The Council's Senior Management Team was to act as a project board to drive the plan forward, although the Standards Committee retained overall responsibility for it.</p> <p>Members noted that the report's call for the Standards Committee report to Annual Council to have a wider ethical remit, and sought clarification as to this recommendation's effect on the status of the committee, The Deputy Monitoring Officer explained that the action plan incorporated in large measure the wider ethical remit that was identified by the report. Concerns were also raised over the vague nature of some of the recommendations within in the report. The Deputy Monitoring Officer agreed to seek clarification from the Audit Commission, and also investigate examples of implementation from other Councils.</p> <p>In terms of recommendation 9, dealing with Member development, the</p>

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	<p>committee noted that it was currently the responsibility of Members to ask for any specific training they felt they needed.</p> <p>It was noted that a report on implementation was to go to a decision-making body in the coming months, and that the committee should receive a report on progress at the next meeting.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. That the report be noted.2. That the Monitoring Officer ask for clarification on Council action with regards to the decisions from the Audit Commission, and also investigate examples of work by other Councils.3. That the committee receive a report on the progress of the action plan at its next meeting in December.
STCO21. TRAINING	<p>Further to discussion at the previous meeting, Members agreed that the next component of their training was to be a mock hearing.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. That the Monitoring Officer begin preparations for holding a Mock Hearing for Members, prior to the December meeting of this committee.2. That this hearing take place on an evening.
STCO22. REGISTER OF GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY	<p>It was noted that the up to date Register of Gifts and Hospitality was available on the Council's website at http://www.haringey.gov.uk/index/council/how_the_council_works/standardscommittee.htm . The Register was updated each time a new entry was received.</p>
STCO23. THE STANDARDS BOARD FOR ENGLAND	<p>Members were requested to appoint a delegate to the Standards Board for England 'Fifth Annual Assembly of Standards Committees', to be held on 16-17 October 2006 at The International Conference Centre, Birmingham.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. That those Members not present be e-mailed and invited to attend the Conference.
STCO24. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS	<p>There were no such business.</p>

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STCO25.	DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS Future meetings of the committee were due to be held at the following dates and times: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 4 December 2006, 7:30pm- 5 March 2007, 7:30pm

IRENE FRANCIS

Chair