

UNRESTRICTED MINUTES OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE
MONDAY, 31 OCTOBER 2011

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| MEMBERS: | Councillors *Egan, *Gibson, *Gorrie, *McNamara, *Reece, Stanton and *Whyte |
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| INDEPENDENT MEMBERS: | Mr J Darbyshire, *Ms R. Hatch, *Ms A Loyd, *Mr P. Skinner, *Ms A. Rabe, and *Mr C. Watts. |
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Apologies Mr Darbyshire and Councillor Stanton

**MINUTE
NO.**

SUBJECT/DECISION

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| STCO15. | <p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received on behalf of James Darbyshire, and also from Councillor Stanton, for whom Councillor Amin was substituting.</p> <p>NOTED</p> |
| STCO16. | <p>URGENT BUSINESS</p> <p>The Chair asked if there any items of urgent business.</p> <p>The Committee Manager – Mr Hart advised that there were TABLED unrestricted and exempt Minutes of the special meeting of the Standards Committee of 7 December 2010 that required consideration and approval, and had been omitted due to an oversight.</p> <p>The Chair advised that the minutes would be considered under Items 4 and 10 respectively.</p> <p>NOTED</p> |
| STCO17. | <p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>There were no declarations of interests.</p> <p>Councillor McNamara commented that in respect of the requirement to make a declaration it was the case that the exempt item on the agenda did not lend itself to determining whether a member did need to declare an interest. Whilst he appreciated that the subject member could not be named in the public part of the proceedings, it caused Members difficulties in knowing whether to make a deputation.</p> <p>The Acting Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer – Mr Ryan in accepting the point of difficulty to declare, advised that at the commencing of the item in the exempt part of the proceedings, Members would need to make a declaration at that point.</p> <p>NOTED</p> |

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| STCO18. | <p>MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING</p> <p>The Chair agreed to the admittance of the unrestricted minutes of the meeting of the Committee of 7 December 2010.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That the unrestricted minutes of the meetings of the Standards Committee held on 7 December 2010, and 6 June 2011 be confirmed, and signed by the Chair as an accurate record of the proceedings.</p> |
| STCO19. | <p>CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</p> <p>The Chair advised that the term of office of Carol Sykes (extended from May 23 2011) came to an end on 30 September 2011. The Chair, on behalf of the Standards Committee expressed her gratitude for all of the hard work Ms Sykes had given over the past five years as an independent member and Chair of Haringey's Standards Committee.</p> <p>The Chair commented that Ms Sykes had made a significant and very valuable contribution to the work of the Standards Committee. As one of the first appointed independent members, Ms Sykes greatly helped to shape how the Standards Committee conducted itself in relation to the many new challenges it faces, and her personal knowledge, expertise and understanding of the many rules and regulations was of great assistance to both independent and councillor members.</p> <p>The Committee endorsed the sentiments of the Chair.</p> <p>NOTED</p> |
| STCO20. | <p>MONITORING OFFICER'S VERBAL REPORT ON ANY COMPLAINTS RECEIVED AND REFERRALS RECEIVED FROM THE STANDARDS BOARD FOR ENGLAND</p> <p>The Chair asked for an update on matters, and whether there were any updates on the progression of the legislation to abolish the standards regime in England and Wales.</p> <p>Mr Ryan advised that there had been no referrals from the Standards Board for England, and that it was likely that an Assessment Sub-Committee would need to be called in the near future to consider one complaint.</p> <p>In terms of the abolition of the Standards regime Mr Ryan advised that the Bill was likely to proceed through the Parliamentary process in December 2011 and to come into effect on 1 April 2012.</p> <p>In terms of the implications of this and also the new localism bill which came into effect in January of 2012 the new bill gave reference to a requirement for</p> |

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| | <p>some form of localised review of member conduct in terms of the mandatory requirement for disclosure of interests. Mr Ryan advised that there would be some evident changes to the existing constitution to allow for the changes to the existing terms of reference and rules governing consideration of complaints but that there would require some further debate as to how this would in effect take form.</p> <p>The Chair thanked Mr Ryan for his brief update.</p> <p>NOTED</p> |
| STCO21. | <p>DETERMINATION HEARINGS (IF ANY)</p> <p>Nil</p> |
| STCO22. | <p>NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS</p> <p>Nil</p> |
| STCO23. | <p>EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS</p> <p>That the press and public be excluded from the proceedings as Items 10 & 11 contain exempt information as defined in paras 1 & 2 of Section 100a of the Local Government Act 1972; namely information relating to any individual, and information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual; and also in accordance with the Standards Committee (England) Regulations 2008 (regulation 5), and Section 53 of the Local Government Act 2000.</p> <p>SUMMARY OF EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL PROCEEDINGS</p> |
| STCO24. | <p>EXEMPT MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING</p> <p>AGREED the exempt minutes of the meetings of the Standards Committee held on 7 December 2010, and 6 June 2011.</p> |
| STCO25. | <p>STANDARDS COMPLAINT SC001/1011 - CONSIDERATION OF THE OUTCOME OF AN INVESTIGATION RESULTING FROM THE DETERMINATION OF THE STANDARDS REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE SC001/1011</p> <p>AGREED RECOMMENDATIONS AS MOVED BY THE COMMITTEE</p> |
| STCO26. | <p>NEW ITEMS OF EXEMPT URGENT BUSINESS</p> <p>Nil</p> |
| STCO27. | <p>DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS</p> <p>20 December 2011</p> |

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| | 23 February 2012 16 April 2012 | |
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The meeting ended at 20.20hrs.

Rachel Hatch

Chair