

(NB. Extract only of relevant Sections Part 3 C of the Constitution)

SECTION 2 - COMMITTEES

3. Standards Committee

The Standards Committee will have the following roles and functions:

- (a) Promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct by Councillors, co-opted members and representatives of religious organisations and parent governor representatives;
- (b) Assisting the Leader, Councillors, co-opted members and representatives of religious organisations and parent governor representatives to observe the Members' Code of Conduct;
- (c) Advising the Council on the adoption or revision of the Members' Code of Conduct;
- (d) Monitoring the operation of the Members' Code of Conduct;
- (e) Advising, training or arranging to train Councillors and co-opted members on matters relating to the Members' Code of Conduct and the ethical framework;
- (f) Granting dispensations to the Elected Mayor, Councillors and co-opted members from requirements relating to interests set out in the Members' Code of Conduct;
- (g) Advising the Council on codes and protocols forming the Council's ethical framework and its governance arrangements, monitoring the effectiveness of those arrangements and making reports and recommendations accordingly;
- ~~(h) Carrying out an assessment and review function for all complaints received by the Council against Councillors and co-opted members;~~
- ~~(i) Dealing with any reports from a case tribunal or interim case tribunal and any report from the Monitoring Officer on any matter which is referred by the Ethical Standards Officer to the Monitoring Officer;~~
- ~~(j) Hearing complaints against Councillors and co-opted members~~

PART THREE – RESPONSIBILITY FOR FUNCTIONS

Section C – Terms of Reference: Full Council & Non Executive Bodies

~~made to the Council or referred back from the Standard Board for England;~~

- ~~(k) Hearing complaints against co-opted members arising from alleged breaches of Codes and Protocols falling outside the jurisdiction of the Standards Board for England;~~
- ~~(h) Assessing, hearing and determining allegations of failure to comply with the Members' Code of Conduct by Councillors and co-opted Members.~~
- ~~(l) (i) Responding to national reviews and consultations on standards related issues;~~
- ~~(m) (j) Granting exemptions for politically restricted posts and giving directions to include a post on the list of restricted posts;~~
- ~~(n) (k) Advising the Council on the appointment of independent persons members and taking steps to select them.~~

SECTION 3 - SUB-COMMITTEES AND PANELS

3. Under Standards Committee

~~The following rules will apply to all three types of Sub-Committee listed below. The quorum is three including an independent member as Chair, with a casting vote if necessary, and at least one Councillor. So far as practicable, and having regard to relevant Regulations and Guidance, every Sub-Committee will include two Councillors, each from a different party group.~~

3.1 Assessment Sub-Committees

~~Between three and five members of the Committee.~~

~~To make initial assessments of written allegations to the Committee of failure to comply with the Code of Conduct. The Sub-Committees will follow procedures agreed by the Committee.~~

~~To consider all allegations referred to the Sub-Committee by the Monitoring Officer that a member or co-opted member has failed to comply with the Members' Code of Conduct and to determine whether the allegation:~~

(a) Merits no further action and is dismissed, or

(b) Merits further investigation.

The quorum of the Assessment Sub-Committee is three.

~~3.2 Review Sub-Committees~~

~~Between three and five members of the Committee. Not to include any member of the Assessment Sub-Committee for the same allegation.~~

~~To review, when requested, any decision of an Assessment Sub-Committee to take no action on an allegation. The Sub-Committees will follow procedures agreed by the Committee.~~

3.3 Hearing Sub-Committees

~~Five members of the Committee.~~

~~To hear complaints against Councillors and co-opted members made to the Council or referred back from the Standards Board for England. The Sub-Committees will follow procedures agreed by the Committee.~~

(a) To conduct hearings into allegations referred for investigation by the Assessment Sub-Committee that a member or co-opted member has failed to comply with the Members' Code of Conduct.

(b) To determine whether or not the member or co-opted member did / did not fail to comply with the Members' Code of Conduct.

(c) Where the Sub-Committee has determined that a member has failed to comply with the Members' Code of Conduct to take such action as it may lawfully take.

(d) In consequence of the hearing and determination of any allegation to make recommendations to the Council with a view to promoting high standards of conduct amongst members.

The quorum of the Hearing Sub-Committee is three.