

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE
MONDAY, 30 APRIL 2007**

MEMBERS:	Councillors Egan, Kober, Lister, Williams and Winskill
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INDEPENDENT MEMBERS:	Ms I Francis (Chair), Mr R. Lovegrove and Ms C. Sykes.
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Apologies Councillors GMMH Rahman Khan and Mughal
Mr N Weber (Deputy Chair)

**MINUTE
NO.**

SUBJECT/DECISION

STCO38.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies for absence were received from Nicholas Weber (Vice-Chair), Councillor Mughal and Councillor GMMH Rahman Kahn.
STCO39.	URGENT BUSINESS There was no such business.
STCO40.	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST All Members present declared an interest in respect of the fact that they were to sign up to the Code upon its approval by Full Council.
STCO41.	PRESENTATION ON REVISED MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COUNCILLORS Members received a presentation from the Monitoring Officer John Suddaby on the revised model code of conduct for Councillors, which Members would be obliged to sign at the start of the 2007/08 municipal year. The presentation highlighted key changes to the code of conduct. These included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rules on interests designed to empower Members as community advocates - Changes to requirements in respect of personal interest declarations - New rules relating to sensitive information - Clarification of the rules relating to confidential information - Inclusion of a new provision on bullying - Removing the requirement to report other Members in breach of the Code. Full details of the changes were to be found within the report and code itself.
STCO42.	THE REVISED MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COUNCILLORS Members were informed that they were permitted to make changes to the model, with the provision that this not weaken the Code as a whole. The

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Monitoring Officer confirmed that there were no provisions in the code for altering the manner in which information was held, although the option to review this was open to the committee. Members requested that it be noted that the Council was still awaiting clarifying guidance from the Standards Board for England on this and other issues in respect of the code.

Members noted that all Members would be required to complete a new register of interests within 28 days of the adoption of the new Code of Conduct, and recommended that all Councillors be given a copy upon its adoption. It was noted that training days for Members in respect of the new Code would be organised in June.

RESOLVED:

That the Standards Committee:

1. Propose the adoption of the Revised Model Code of Conduct by the Annual General Meeting of the Council.
2. Propose to full Council that obtaining individual Member sign-up to the Code using the form provided at appendix 2 of the report is undertaken.
3. Agree to the proposals of member and Senior Officer Briefing on the new code.
4. Note that the Council was awaiting guidance from the Standards Board for England on a number of changes in the code.
5. Advise all Members that they would be required to complete a new Register of Interests within 28 days of the adoption of the new Code of Conduct.
6. Propose that all Members be given a copy of the new Code upon its adoption.

IRENE FRANCIS

Chair