

**STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**HELD: 20 FEBRUARY 2013**

Start: 6.00pm

Finish: 6.15pm

**PRESENT:**

Councillors: Grant (Chairman)

Mrs Atherley            Kay  
Davies                    Wright  
Fillis

In attendance: Mr S Ibbs (Independent Person)

Officers: Managing Director (People and Places) (Mrs G Rowe)  
Legal and Member Services Manager (Mr M Jones)  
Principal Overview and Scrutiny Officer (Mrs C A Jackson)

**32. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absent were submitted on behalf of the Mr S Garvey (Reserve Independent Person).

**33. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE**

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Wright to his first meeting as a Member of the Committee.

**34. URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business.

**35. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**36. MINUTES**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Standards Committee meeting held on 26 November 2012 be received as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**37. DISPENSATIONS**

Consideration was given to the joint report of the Managing Director (People and Places) and the Borough Solicitor which sought approval to grant dispensations to Councillors in relation to interests in relevant lines in the budgets and also to delegate authority to the Managing Director (People and Places) to grant dispensations, in cases of urgency.

Members considered the granting of a dispensation to all Councillors who have disclosable pecuniary or pecuniary interests in relation to relevant lines in the budget which would allow them to participate and vote in the budget debates, remove uncertainty and avoid the possibility of penalties related to the disclosure of interests resulting from changes in the standards regime introduced as part of the Localism Act 2011.

It was noted that the intention of the dispensation was to cover the relevant budget items as listed on the February Council meeting agenda each year.

Members also considered the request to delegate authority to grant dispensations, in cases of urgency, to the Managing Director (People and Places), in consultation with the Leader and Leader of the Opposition.

- RESOLVED: A. That a dispensation be granted, until 19 February 2017, to all Councillors who have disclosable pecuniary or pecuniary interests in relation to relevant lines in the budget to allow them to participate and vote in the budget debates.
- B. That delegated authority be given to the Managing Director (People and Places) in consultation with the Leader and Leader of the Opposition, to grant dispensations, in cases of urgency.

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Chairman