

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

HELD: 29 MARCH 2016
Start: 5.00pm
Finish: 5.18pm

PRESENT:

Councillors: Moran (Chairman)

Bailey Wright
Westley

In attendance: Mr S Ibbs (Independent Person)

Officers: Borough Solicitor (Mr T Broderick)
Legal and Member Services Manager (Mr M Jones)
Principal Overview and Scrutiny Officer (Mrs C A Jackson)

14. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were noted for Cllr Mrs Marshall and the Reserved Independent Person, Mr S Garvey.

15. SUBSTITUTIONS (IF ANY)

There were no substitutions.

16. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

17. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

18. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Standards Committee held on 17 September 2015 be received as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

19. BLOGGING AND SOCIAL MEDIA/NETWORKING - GUIDANCE NOTE FOR COUNCILLORS

Consideration was given to the report of the Borough Solicitor as contained on pages 93 to 98 of the Book of Reports which sought endorsement of a Guidance Note for Councillors on Blogging and Social Media/Networking, attached at Appendix 1.

RESOLVED: That the 'Blogging and Social Media/Networking – Guidance Note for Councillors', attached at Appendix 1, be endorsed and circulated to all Members.

20. INDEPENDENT PERSON PROTOCOL

Consideration was given to the report of the Borough Solicitor as set down on pages 99 to 128 that sought endorsement of the revisions to the Independent Person Protocol as a result of changes effected by the Local Authorities (Standing Orders)(England) (Amendment) Regulation 2015 that have required the Council to provide revised arrangements for disciplinary action in respect of its statutory officers. Arrangements were agreed at Council on 22 July 2015. The Regulations also provided an additional role for the Independent Persons as detailed at paragraph 3.

RESOLVED: That the Independent Person Protocol, attached at Appendix 3 and the Indemnity at Appendix 2, be endorsed.

21. COMPLAINTS STATISTICS

The Committee considered the circulated complaints statistics for 2015/16 to date, as set down at pages 131 to 136 of the Book of Reports.

RESOLVED: That the Standards Complaints Statistics, attached at Appendix 1, be noted.

22. WORK PROGRAMME 2016/17 AND DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The Committee considered the Work Programme for 2016/17, as set down at page 129 of the Book of Reports and the date of future meetings.

- RESOLVED
- A. That the Work Programme for 2016/17 be noted.
 - B. That the dates of future meetings 20 September 2016 and 21 March 2017 be confirmed.

.....
Chairman