



Jacqui Sinnott-Lacey  
Chief Operating Officer

52 Derby Street  
Ormskirk  
West Lancashire  
L39 2DF

Monday, 26 February 2024

**TO: COUNCILLORS Y GAGEN, D WESTLEY, P BURNSIDE, V CUMMINS,  
A FENNELL, N FUREY, J HOWARD, J WITTER, L WEBSTER  
AND A GRANT**

Dear Councillor,

A meeting of the **STANDARDS COMMITTEE** will be held in the **CABINET/COMMITTEE ROOM - 52 DERBY STREET, ORMSKIRK L39 2DF** on **TUESDAY, 5 MARCH 2024** at **7.00 PM** at which your attendance is requested.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "JSL", written over a circular stamp.

Jacqui Sinnott-Lacey  
Chief Operating Officer

### **AGENDA (Open to the Public)**

- 1. APOLOGIES**
- 2. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE**  
To be apprised of any changes to the membership of the Committee in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4. This rule should only apply to the Standards Committee in exceptional circumstances and if the nominated substitute has been appropriately trained.
- 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**  
If a Member requires advice on Declarations of Interest, he/she is advised to contact the Legal and Democratic Services Manager in advance of the meeting. (For the assistance of members a checklist for the use in considering their position on any particular item is included at the end of this agenda sheet).

1 - 2

4. **URGENT BUSINESS**  
Note: No other business is permitted unless, by reason of special circumstances, which shall be specified at the meeting, the Chairman is of the opinion that the item(s) should be considered as a matter of urgency.
5. **PUBLIC SPEAKING** 3 - 4  
Residents of West Lancashire, on giving notice, may address the meeting to make representations on any item on the agenda except where the public and press are to be excluded during consideration of the item. The deadline for submission is 5.00pm on Thursday 29 February 2024. A copy of the public speaking protocol and form to be completed is attached.
6. **MINUTES** 5 - 6  
To receive as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 19 September 2023.
7. **PARISH/TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES** 7 - 12  
To Consider the report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, and supporting appendix, regarding the Nominated Parish Councillors to be appointed to Standards Committee.
8. **COMPLAINTS STATISTICS REPORT** 13 - 14  
To consider the report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services & Monitoring Officer.
9. **GENERAL DISPENSATION TO ALL COUNCILLORS** 15 - 22  
To consider the report of the Head of Legal & Democratic Services requesting to grant a dispensation to members to allow them to continue to speak and vote at Council meetings in relation to relevant lines in the budget and specific functions of the Council.
10. **INDEPENDENT PERSON PROTOCOL** 23 - 30  
To consider the report with supporting appendix, of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services regarding a review of the Independent Person Protocol.,
11. **WORK PROGRAMME** 31 - 32  
To note the work programme and consider any items for inclusion.
12. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**  
To note the next meeting will be held on Tuesday 17 September 2024.

**We can provide this document, upon request, on audiotape, in large print, in Braille and in other languages.**

**FIRE EVACUATION PROCEDURE: Please see attached sheet.**

**MOBILE PHONES: These should be switched off or to 'silent' at all meetings.**

For further information, please contact:-

Duncan Jowitt on 01695 583 495

Or email [Duncan.Jowitt@westlancs.gov.uk](mailto:Duncan.Jowitt@westlancs.gov.uk)

**FIRE EVACUATION PROCEDURE FOR:  
COUNCIL MEETINGS WHERE OFFICERS ARE PRESENT  
(52 DERBY STREET, ORMSKIRK)**

**PERSON IN CHARGE:** Most Senior Officer Present  
**ZONE WARDEN:** Member Services Officer / Lawyer  
**DOOR WARDEN(S)** Usher / Caretaker

**IF YOU DISCOVER A FIRE**

1. Operate the nearest **FIRE CALL POINT** by breaking the glass.
2. Attack the fire with the extinguishers provided only if you have been trained and it is safe to do so. **Do not** take risks.

**ON HEARING THE FIRE ALARM**

1. Leave the building via the **NEAREST SAFE EXIT**. **Do not stop** to collect personal belongings.
2. Proceed to the **ASSEMBLY POINT** on the car park and report your presence to the **PERSON IN CHARGE**.
3. **Do NOT** return to the premises until authorised to do so by the **PERSON IN CHARGE**.

**NOTES:**

Officers are required to direct all visitors regarding these procedures i.e. exit routes and place of assembly.

The only persons not required to report to the Assembly Point are the Door Wardens.

**CHECKLIST FOR PERSON IN CHARGE**

1. Advise other interested parties present that you are the person in charge in the event of an evacuation.
2. Make yourself familiar with the location of the fire escape routes and inform any interested parties of the escape routes.
3. Make yourself familiar with the location of the assembly point and inform any interested parties of that location.
4. Make yourself familiar with the location of the fire alarm and detection control panel.
5. Ensure that the zone warden and door wardens are aware of their roles and responsibilities.
6. Arrange for a register of attendance to be completed (if considered appropriate / practicable).

**IN THE EVENT OF A FIRE, OR THE FIRE ALARM BEING SOUNDED**

1. Ensure that the room in which the meeting is being held is cleared of all persons.
2. Evacuate via the nearest safe Fire Exit and proceed to the **ASSEMBLY POINT** in the car park.
3. Delegate a person at the **ASSEMBLY POINT** who will proceed to **HOME CARE LINK** in order to ensure that a back-up call is made to the **FIRE BRIGADE**.
4. Delegate another person to ensure that **DOOR WARDENS** have been posted outside the relevant Fire Exit Doors.

5. Ensure that the **ZONE WARDEN** has reported to you on the results of his checks, i.e. that the rooms in use have been cleared of all persons.
6. If an Attendance Register has been taken, take a **ROLL CALL**.
7. Report the results of these checks to the Fire and Rescue Service on arrival and inform them of the location of the **FIRE ALARM CONTROL PANEL**.
8. Authorise return to the building only when it is cleared to do so by the **FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE OFFICER IN CHARGE**. Inform the **DOOR WARDENS** to allow re-entry to the building.

**NOTE:**

The Fire Alarm system will automatically call the Fire Brigade. The purpose of the 999 back-up call is to meet a requirement of the Fire Precautions Act to supplement the automatic call.

**CHECKLIST FOR ZONE WARDEN**

1. Carry out a physical check of the rooms being used for the meeting, including adjacent toilets, kitchen.
2. Ensure that **ALL PERSONS**, both officers and members of the public are made aware of the **FIRE ALERT**.
3. Ensure that **ALL PERSONS** evacuate **IMMEDIATELY**, in accordance with the **FIRE EVACUATION PROCEDURE**.
4. Proceed to the **ASSEMBLY POINT** and report to the **PERSON IN CHARGE** that the rooms within your control have been cleared.
5. Assist the **PERSON IN CHARGE** to discharge their duties.

It is desirable that the **ZONE WARDEN** should be an **OFFICER** who is normally based in this building and is familiar with the layout of the rooms to be checked.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR DOOR WARDENS**

1. Stand outside the **FIRE EXIT DOOR(S)**
2. Keep the **FIRE EXIT DOOR SHUT**.
3. Ensure that **NO PERSON**, whether staff or public enters the building until **YOU** are told by the **PERSON IN CHARGE** that it is safe to do so.
4. If anyone attempts to enter the premises, report this to the **PERSON IN CHARGE**.
5. Do not leave the door **UNATTENDED**.