

Standards Committee

Agenda

Wednesday 24 March 2010

7.00 pm

Committee Room 2 - Hammersmith Town Hall

MEMBERSHIP

Administration:	Opposition	Independent Members
Councillor Adronie Alford Councillor Nicholas Botterill Councillor Donald Johnson	Councillor Stephen Cowan Councillor Lisa Homan	Steven Moussavi (Chairman) Joyce Epstein Grace Moody-Stuart Christopher Troke

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Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Date Issued: 15 March 2010

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24 March 2010

<u>Item</u>		<u>Pages</u>
1. MINUTES		1 - 4
	To approve as an accurate record, and the Chairman to sign, the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 4 November 2009	
2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE		
3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS		
	<i>If a Councillor has any prejudicial or personal interest in a particular report he/she should declare the existence and nature of the interest at the commencement of the consideration of the item or as soon as it becomes apparent.</i>	
	<i>At meetings where members of the public are allowed to be in attendance and speak, any Councillor with a prejudicial interest may also make representations, give evidence or answer questions about the matter. The Councillor must then withdraw immediately from the meeting before the matter is discussed and any vote taken, unless a dispensation has been obtained from the Standards Committee.</i>	
	<i>Where members of the public are not allowed to be in attendance, then the Councillor with a prejudicial interest should withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is under consideration, unless the disability has been removed by the Standards Committee.</i>	
4. STANDARDS FOR ENGLAND BULLETIN 47		5 - 13
	Attached is a copy of the latest SfE Bulletin. Copies of the Decision Notices for the Complaints cases in 2008 and 2010 have been sent to SfE, as requested.	
5. MEMBERS' INDUCTION PROGRAMME FOR MAY 2010		14 - 17
	This report outlines arrangements for the Member Induction programme which will be held immediately after the election.	
	RECOMMENDATION:	
	That the report be noted.	
6. DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT		18 - 21
	This attached report summarises the work of the Committee over the Municipal Year 2009-10. Subject to any changes by the Committee and inclusion of any items from this meeting, the report will be submitted to the Council's Annual Meeting on 26 May.	

RECOMMENDATION:

That the draft Annual Report (attached) be approved subject to any changes agreed at this meeting, and be submitted to the Council at its Annual Meeting on 26 May 2010.

7. OUTCOME OF COMPLAINT

22 - 23

Since the last meeting, the Council has received one complaint against a Councillor. A meeting of the Assessment Sub-Committee was held on 2 February when it was decided to take no action. The complainant was informed and a Summary of the Decision published on the Internet. A copy of the Summary is attached. The complainant had until 12 March to request a review of the Decision. [No letter was received by this date so this case is now closed.]

8. FEEDBACK FROM SEMINARS

24 - 38

Since the last meeting the Committee has held a joint meeting with Kensington and Chelsea Standards Committee and has been represented at both the Annual North West London Networking Seminar at Brent and at a pan-London meeting of Standards Committee Members at the GLA's City Hall offices.

Joint Meeting

The joint meeting was held on 3 December and a note of the meeting is attached.

Brent Networking Seminar

This was held on 12 January and was attended by Christopher Troke; Kayode Adewumi, Head of Councillors' Services; and David Bays, Committee Co-ordinator. The main speaker was Peter Keith-Lucas who gave a presentation on the various stages of the complaints process, answering questions in the light of experience to date. A copy of his power point presentation slides is available together with two other papers circulated at the event: a Monitoring Officer's Protocol and a paper outlining suggested criteria for Assessment Sub-Committees.

GLA Seminar

This was held on 11 February and was attended by Steven Moussavi, the Chairman; and David Bays, Committee Co-ordinator. A report of the seminar to the GLA's Standards Committee together with a Summary of points raised at the Seminar are attached for information. Members' attention is drawn to the conclusions and Feedback paragraphs in the Summary paper..

9. STANDARDS COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

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The appendix attached to this report sets out the future work programme of the Standards Committee and outlines scheduled reporting dates.