



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

20 OCTOBER 2006

Report of the Director of Corporate and Adult Social Services and
Monitoring Officer

Annual Report – June 2005 to May 2006

RECOMMENDATION

1. To note the Annual Report 2005/06.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Committee met on six occasions during the municipal year 2005/06:

18 August 2005
23 September 2005
21 October 2005
9 December 2005
20 January 2006
7 April 2006.

- 2.2 During the course of the year, the Committee made recommendations to the Council on the term of office for, and attendance requirements of, independent members of the Standards Committee. Recommendations were also made about standards of conduct for members of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Members' Allowances. The recommendations were accepted by the Council without amendment.
- 2.3 Councillor Skelton and I attended the Annual Conference of the Standards Board for England and reported back on the issues covered.
- 2.4 The Committee organised Ethnical Framework Update training for councillors in October and November 2005. The same session was run on two occasions and most councillors attended one of the sessions. A compulsory training session for new Members elected in May 2006 was arranged as was the annual training event for members of the Planning Control Committee.
- 2.5 The independent members of the Committee were invited to a newly-formed Independent Members Networking Forum for Derbyshire. Mr Philip Sunderland was nominated to attend.
- 2.6 The Committee interviewed persons to fill the vacancy on the Committee caused by the resignation of Mr G Bagga. Mr Philip Sunderland was recommended and his appointment was subsequently ratified by the full Council. We welcome Mr Sunderland to the Committee.

- 2.7 A dispensation was granted to most councillors to enable them to consider and decide upon a report to the full Council on the granting of indemnities to Members and Officers in respect of claims arising out of the performance of Council duties.
- 2.8 The Committee welcomed the proposals set out in the ODPM Discussion Paper “Standards of Conduct in English Local Government : The Future”, and now awaits further Government announcements on modifications to the Members’ Code of Conduct.
- 2.9 The Committee acted as the final stage of the Council’s internal complaints procedure for a complaint relating to changes to bus stops on Willowcroft Road, Spondon.
- 2.10 The Committee carried out a Local Determination referred to the Council by the Ethnical Standards Officer. The councillor concerned was found to have breached the Council’s Code of Conduct. He was censured, suspended for one week or until he sent a written apology, and required to undergo additional training on the Code of Conduct.

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Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 Implications

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. None.

Legal

2. None.

Personnel

3. None.

Equalities impact

4. None.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

5. None.