

Time Commenced – 2.00pm  
Time Finished – 3.25pm

**STANDARDS COMMITTEE  
21 OCTOBER 2005**

**Present:** Reverend Canon R B Blowers – Chair  
Mrs C McDowall,  
Councillors Baxter and Latham

**Officers in Attendance:**

Michael Foote – Director of Corporate Services  
Steve Dunning – Assistant Director - Democratic Services

**12/05                      Apologies for Absence**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Skelton

**13/05                      Late Items**

In accordance with Section 100 (B) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the Chair agreed to discuss dates for future meetings.

The Committee agreed to hold Committee meetings on the following dates:

Friday 20 January 2006 at 2.00pm

Friday 7 April 2006 at 10.00am

Friday 21 July 2006 at 2.00pm

Friday 20 October 2006 at 2.00pm

**14/05                      Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 September 2005 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**15/05                      Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Baxter declared a personal prejudicial interest in minute no 18/05 Dispensation for Councillors as he was appointed to outside bodies by the Council.

16/05

## Annual Report – June 2004 to May 2005

The Committee considered a report from the Director of Corporate Services and Monitoring Officer which set out the Annual Report 2004/05.

**Resolved to note the Annual Report 2004/05.**

17/05

## Standards Committee and Independent Remuneration Panel – Membership Issues

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Corporate Services which asked the committee to consider whether a term of office should be introduced for members of the Standards Committee and whether conditions should be attached to membership of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Members' Allowances relating to the conduct of members of that Panel.

**Resolved to recommend Council:**

- 1. To approve that the term of office of independent members of the Standards Committee be three years with members retiring on a rolling basis starting in 2006.**
- 2. To approve that independent members may serve up to a maximum of three terms of office.**
- 3. To approve that an independent member shall cease to be a member if he/she fails to attend three consecutive meetings without a good reason.**
- 4. To invite members of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Members Allowances to commit themselves to follow the Seven Principles of Public Life set out in the report and to delegate to the Standards Committee the investigation and determination of any complaints of misconduct by Panel members.**

18/05

## Dispensation for Councillors

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Corporate Services which stated that the Council at its meeting in November 2005 were to consider a report which recommended the granting to members and officers indemnities in respect of claims arising out of the performance of the Council duties. In particular any claims arising out of the performance of duties of any outside bodies, where appointment has been made by the Council, would be covered. Criminal acts would not be covered. The making of indemnities to cover members could be regarded as placing members under prejudicial interests. No general dispensation exists to allow members to participate in the determination of this issue.

**Resolved in accordance with The Relevant Authorities (Standards Committee) (Dispensations) Regulations 2002 to grant a dispensation to the Councillors who have made the request to enable them to consider the item at the meeting of the Council on 23 November 2005.**

(Having declared a personal prejudicial interest in the above item Councillor Baxter left the meeting during the discussion and voting thereon.)

Chair of the next ensuing meeting  
at which these minutes were signed