



Leicester  
City Council

## **MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**DATE: WEDNESDAY, 25 JANUARY 2006**

**TIME: 5.30 PM**

**PLACE: COMMITTEE ROOM 1, 'B' BLOCK, NEW WALK CENTRE,  
KING STREET, LEICESTER**

### **Members of the Committee**

Councillors Coley, O'Brien and Sood

Mrs. Caroline Roberts (Independent Member) (Chair)

One Independent Member vacancy

Members of the Committee are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business listed overleaf.

for Town Clerk

**Officer contact:** Frances Wake  
Committee Services, Town Clerk's Department  
Leicester City Council  
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## **INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

### **ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND MEETINGS**

You have the right to attend Cabinet to hear decisions being made. You can also attend Scrutiny Committees, as well as meetings of the full Council. You can ask questions and make representations to Scrutiny Committees and Council. You also have the right to see copies of agendas and minutes. Dates of meetings are available at the Customer Service Centre. There are, however, certain occasions when the Council's meetings may need to discuss issues in private session. The reasons for dealing with matters in private session are set down in law.

### **WHEELCHAIR ACCESS**

The Committee Rooms at New Walk Centre are all accessible to wheelchair users. If wheelchair access is required for Council meetings, which are held at the Town Hall, please contact Charles Poole on 252 7015 or call in at the Customer Service Centre.

### **BRAILLE/AUDIO TAPE**

If there are any particular reports that you would like translating into Braille or providing on audio tape, the Committee Administrator can provide this for you (production times will depend upon equipment/facility availability).

**General Enquiries - if you have any queries about any of the above or the business to be discussed, please contact Frances Wake, Committee Administrator on (0116) 252 6028 or call in at the Customer Service Centre.**

**Press Enquiries - please phone the Communications Unit on 252 6081**

# **PUBLIC SESSION**

## **AGENDA**

### **1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members are asked to declare any interests they may have in the business on the agenda, and/or indicate that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applies to them.

### **2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 21 September 2005 have been circulated and the Committee is asked to confirm them as a correct record for signature by the Chair.

### **3. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT IN ENGLISH LOCAL GOVERNMENT: THE FUTURE** **Appendix A**

The Corporate Director of Resources, Access and Diversity submits a report informing the Committee of the publication by the Government of the above discussion paper and seeks the Committee's views on how the Council should respond to this proposed strategy.

### **4. GOING LOCAL: INVESTIGATIONS AND HEARINGS** **Appendix B**

The Town Clerk submits a report seeking agreement on a strategy for preparing for the conduct of Local Hearings.

### **5. FUTURE MEMBER TRAINING IN ISSUES OF ETHICS AND PROBITY** **Appendix C**

The Town Clerk submits a report seeking the Committee's guidance on future member training in issues of ethics and probity.

### **6. AGENDA NOTE: STANDARDS COMMITTEE - RECRUITMENT OF SECOND INDEPENDENT MEMBER**

Members are aware that, following the resignation of Ms Jill Bellingham, there is currently a vacancy for the second Independent Member.

The Discussion Paper, "Standards of Conduct in English Local Government: The Future", addressed elsewhere on the agenda, points towards Independent Members on the Committee reflecting a balance of experience. This will be reflected in the recruitment documentation.

Furthermore, Council at its meeting on 26 January 2006 is due to consider the

future shape of Scrutiny within the Authority, including the role of the Audit Committee. Any possible changes to the Audit role performed by the Standards Committee, if pursued by Council, will also be reflected in the documentation.

A public advertisement will then be placed with the ensuing recruitment to be conducted by the three political Group Whips, supported by the Town Clerk in his capacity as the Council's Monitoring Officer.

**7. COMPLAINTS AGAINST ELECTED MEMBERS** **Appendix D**

The Town Clerk submits a report which outlines the number and type of complaints received against Elected Members.

**8. STANDARDS COMMITTEE NEWS: 04** **Appendix E**

Attached for the Committee's information is a copy of Standards Committee [News:04](#), November 2005.

**9. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

