

MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

DATE: WEDNESDAY, 13 JANUARY 2010

TIME: 5.30 PM

PLACE: Room 18, Ground Floor, Town Hall

Members of the Committee

Councillors Corrall, Draycott, Keeling, Scuplak, Shelton and Thomas

Mrs Sheila Brucciani (Independent Member) (Chair) Ms Kate McLeod (Independent Member) Ms Mary Ray (Independent Member)

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

for Director of Democratic Services

Officer contact: Heather Kent
Democratic Support,

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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 Committees, as well as meetings of the full Council.

There are procedures for you to ask questions and make representations to Scrutiny Committees, and Council. Please contact Democratic Support, as detailed below for further guidance on this.

You also have the right to see copies of agendas and minutes. Agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website at www.cabinet.leicester.gov.uk or by contacting us as detailed below.

Dates of meetings are available at the Customer Service Centre (New Walk Centre, King Street), Town Hall Reception and on the Website.

There are 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

Meetings are held at the Town Hall. The Meeting rooms are all accessible to wheelchair users. Wheelchair access to the Town Hall is from Horsefair Street (Take the lift to the ground floor and go straight ahead to main reception).

BRAILLE/AUDIO TAPE/TRANSLATION

If there are any particular reports that you would like translating or providing on audio tape, the Democratic Services Officer can organise this for you (production times will depend upon equipment/facility availability).

INDUCTION LOOPS

There are induction loop facilities in meeting rooms. Please speak to the Democratic Services Officer at the meeting if you wish to use this facility or contact them as detailed below.

General Enquiries - if you have any queries about any of the above or the business to be discussed, please contact Heather Kent, Democratic Support on (0116) 229 8816 or email heather.kent@leicester.gov.uk or call in at the Town Hall.

Press Enquiries - please phone the Communications Unit on 252 6081

PUBLIC SESSION

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. 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.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Appendix A

The minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee, held on 18 November 2009, are attached and Members are asked to confirm the as a correct record.

4. CODE OF PRACTICE FOR MEMBER INVOLVEMENT Appendix B IN LICENSING MATTERS

The Director of Legal Services submits a report that enables the necessary approvals to be given for a Code of Practice for Member involvement in licensing matters. The Standards Committee is asked to comment on the provisions of the Code of Practice subject to further comments from the Licensing Committee and to confirm its agreement to the Code being submitted to Council.

5. CODE OF PRACTICE FOR MEMBER INVOLVEMENT Appendix C IN DEVELOPMENT CONTROL DECISIONS

The Committee will recall that the Director of Legal Services reported on the proposed amendments to the Code to the Standards Committee's July meeting. The Code was considered by the September Council meeting and has now been finalised, in consultation with the Cabinet Lead, to take into account the comments made at the Council meeting. Finalisation of the Code is being reported to the Planning and Development Control Committee meeting on 4th January 2010. The Committee is asked to note the final version of the Code of Practice.

6. MEMBER CONDUCT AT MEETINGS

Appendix D

The Monitoring Officer submits a report that proposes a revision to the 'Member Conduct at Meetings' Protocol as agreed by the Standards Committee on 24th March 2004. Members are asked to comment on the revised Protocol and agree its adoption.

7. COMPLAINTS AGAINST COUNCILLORS - INFORMATION FOR COUNCILLORS

Appendix E

The Monitoring Officer submits a report that details information that would be given to all Members who are subject to complaints so that they are aware of the process and how to engage in it. Members are asked to note and comment on the proposed flowchart information.

8. PETITIONS PROCESS

Appendix F

The Monitoring Officer submits a report that informs Members of the process for dealing with Petitions from Councillors and the public as requested at the last meeting of the Standards Committee. Members are asked to note the process.

9. STANDARDS FOR ENGLAND BULLETIN 46

Appendix G

The Director of Legal Services submits the latest Bulletin from Standards for England. Members are recommended to discuss and note the contents of the Bulletin.

10. STANDARDS COMMITTEE ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2010

Appendix H

The Monitoring Officer submits the Annual Work Programme for the Standards Committee. Members are recommended to note the Work Programme and make comments as they see fit.

11. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS