

MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

DATE: WEDNESDAY, 17 MARCH 2010 TIME: 5.30 PM PLACE:

Members of the Committee

Councillors Clair, 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.

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for Director of Corporate Governance

Officer contact: Heather Kent Democratic Support, Leicester City Council Town Hall, Town Hall Square, Leicester LE1 9BG (Tel. 0116 229 8816 Fax. 0116 247 1181)

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 <u>www.cabinet.leicester.gov.uk</u> 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

<u>AGENDA</u>

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 THE PREVIOUS MEETING Appendix A

The minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 13 January 2010 and the Special Meeting of the Standards Committee held on 8 February 2010 are attached and Members are asked to confirm them as a correct record.

4. COMPLAINTS ABOUT COUNCILLORS - Appendix B INFORMATION FOR COUNCILLORS

The Monitoring Officer submits an amended version of the flowchart that details information that would be given to all Members who are subject to complaints, in response to comments made by the Committee in January. Members are asked to note and comment on the amended flowchart information.

5. TERM OF OFFICE FOR INDEPENDENT MEMBERS Appendix C AND CHAIRS

The Monitoring Officer submits a report concerning whether the Independent Members and the Chair of the Standards Committee should have a fixed term of office, and if so how long that should be. Members are asked to discuss and choose an option, as set out in Paragraph 3.6 of the report.

6. STANDARDS FOR BLOGGING - GUIDANCE FOR Appendix D COUNCILLORS

The Monitoring Officer submits a briefing note from Standards for England that provides guidance on Standards for Blogging for Members. Members are recommended to note guidance and make comments as they see fit.

7. STANDARDS FOR ENGLAND - BULLETIN 47 Appendix E

The Monitoring Officer submits the latest Bulletin from Standards for England. Members are recommended to discuss and note the contents of the Bulletin.

8. STANDARDS COMMITTEE ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2010

Appendix F

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.

9. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS