



Leicester
City Council

MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

DATE: WEDNESDAY, 23 NOVEMBER 2011

TIME: 5.30 PM

PLACE: FOUNTAIN ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, TOWN HALL

Members of the Committee

Councillors Naylor, Osman, Porter, Thomas, Westley and Willmott

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 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

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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.

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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

The minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee, held on 7 September 2011, have been previously circulated and Members are asked to confirm that they are correct subject to the following amendments which have been requested:

Minute 14, Discussion with the Lord Mayor:

Add

“Members discussed issues relating to civic tradition and whether this was being affected by the new arrangements. It was felt that it was important to retain the civic role, noting that it was politically neutral. The Lord Mayor stated that the two roles were in a transition period at the moment and there were some issues that were being ironed out. He stated that other authorities had maintained both roles successfully. Members felt that there should be a clear distinction of roles.”

Minute 21, Any Other Urgent Business, Appendix B1

Add

“Members were informed that a further response to the investigator's report had been supplied by the subject member and were asked whether they wished to consider it, as opportunity had already been given to respond to the draft report. Following discussion on the matter and a difference of opinion, Members voted on whether to accept it or not. Upon being put to the vote, it was agreed not to accept the additional information.”

4. DISCUSSION WITH THE CITY MAYOR

The City Mayor, Sir Peter Soulsby will be present to discuss with the Committee his views on standards and ethics within the Council and his role in maintaining these standards.

5. STANDARDS FRAMEWORK - THE FUTURE

Appendix A

The Independent Chair of the Standards Committee submits a report that informs discussions of the Standards Committee on the future of the Standards framework for Leicester pending the coming into force of the Localism Bill. Members are recommended to consider and comment on the report.

6. MATTER REFERRED FROM AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE **Appendix B**

At its meeting on 28 September 2011 the Audit and Risk Committee resolved the following:

“that the Standards Committee be asked to consider whether Members’ oversight of allegations of officer misconduct is sufficient.”

The full minute extract is attached.

Members are recommended to state whether they wish to ask the Monitoring Officer to submit a report to a future meeting of the Standards Committee for further consideration of the matter.

7. STANDARDS COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME **Appendix C**

The Director of Corporate Governance submits a work programme for the Standards Committee. Members are recommended to note the work programme and make any amendments as they see fit.

8. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS