



Leicester
City Council

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

DATE: WEDNESDAY, 4 FEBRUARY 2015

TIME: 5:00 pm

PLACE: Meeting Room G.02, Ground Floor, City Hall, 115 Charles Street, Leicester, LE1 1FZ

Members of the Committee

Councillor Waddington (Chair)

Councillor Senior (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Shelton

Councillor Sood

One Unfilled Place for a Non-Grouped Member

Ms Fiona Barber (Independent Member)

Ms Amanda Fitchett (Independent Member)

Mr Desmond Henderson (Independent Member)

Mr Stephen Purser (Independent Member)

1 Independent Member Vacancy

Standing Invitees:

Mr David Lindley (Independent Person)

Ms Caroline Roberts (Independent Person)

Members of the Overview Select Committee are also invited to attend the meeting.

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

for the Monitoring Officer

Officer contact: Graham Carey
Democratic Support, Leicester City Council
City Hall, 115 Charles Street, Leicester, LE1 1FZ
(Tel. 0116 454 6356)

Information for members of the public

Attending meetings and access to information

You have the right to attend formal meetings such as full Council, committee meetings, City Mayor & Executive Public Briefing and Scrutiny Commissions and see copies of agendas and minutes. On occasion however, meetings may, for reasons set out in law, need to consider some items in private.

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- ✓ to respect the right of others to view and hear debates without interruption;
- ✓ to ensure that the sound on any device is fully muted and intrusive lighting avoided;
- ✓ where filming, to only focus on those people actively participating in the meeting;
- ✓ where filming, to (via the Chair of the meeting) ensure that those present are aware that they may be filmed and respect any requests to not be filmed.

Further information

If you have any queries about any of the above or the business to be discussed, please contact Graham Carey, **Democratic Support on (0116) 454 6356 or email** graham.carey@leicester.gov.uk or call in at City Hall, 115 Charles Street, Leicester, LE1 1FZ.

For Press Enquiries - please phone the **Communications Unit on 454 4151**

PUBLIC SESSION

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are asked to declare any interests they may have in the business to be discussed.

3. PROCUREMENT

Appendix A

The Council's Overview Select Committee considered a briefing at its meeting on 15 January 2015 on how decisions on the procurement of goods, services and contracts are taken at the Council. During the discussion on the item concerns were expressed by members on the implications of a note from the City Barrister on member involvement in procurement exercises. As a result, the Chair of Standards was requested to arrange a special meeting of the Standards Committee to discuss these issues and report back to a future meeting of the Overview Select Committee.

The briefing note from the City Barrister is attached at **Appendix A**. The minute extract for the Overview Select Committee meeting is shown below.

EXTRACT FROM THE OVERVIEW SELECT COMMITTEE MINUTES for the meeting held on 15 JANUARY 2015

82. PROCUREMENT BRIEFING

The Committee received a presentation concerning how decisions on the procurement of goods, services and contracts were taken at the Council.

A note from the City Barrister was submitted which commented on Member involvement in the procurement exercise.

The Committee expressed concern at the content of the City Barrister's note, particularly at its comments concerning casework and involvement in scrutinising bids during the procurement exercise.

Concern was also expressed at the views concerning the rights to access information and the restrictions on members' rights.

Having regard to the issues of concern raised, it was suggested that the matter be referred to Standards Committee to allow for the concerns of Members to be answered by the City Barrister and to report back to this Committee on its outcomes.

RESOLVED:

that the matter be referred to Standards Committee and a follow up report be submitted to this Committee in due course.