



Leicester
City Council

MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

DATE: WEDNESDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2015

TIME: 5:30 pm

PLACE: Meeting Room G.01, Ground Floor, City Hall, 115 Charles Street, Leicester, LE1 1FZ

Members of the Committee

Councillor Senior (Chair)
Councillor Shelton (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Palmer
Councillor Sood
One Unallocated Non-Grouped Place

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 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 & 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.

Dates of meetings and copies of public agendas and minutes are available on the Council's website at www.cabinet.leicester.gov.uk, from the Council's Customer Service Centre or by contacting us using the details below.

Making meetings accessible to all

Wheelchair access – Public meeting rooms at the City Hall are accessible to wheelchair users. Wheelchair access to City Hall is from the middle entrance door on Charles Street - press the plate on the right hand side of the door to open the door automatically.

Braille/audio tape/translation - If you require this please contact the Democratic Support Officer (production times will depend upon equipment/facility availability).

Induction loops - There are induction loop facilities in City Hall meeting rooms. Please speak to the Democratic Support Officer using the details below.

Filming and Recording the Meeting - The Council is committed to transparency and supports efforts to record and share reports of proceedings of public meetings through a variety of means, including social media. In accordance with government regulations and the Council's policy, persons and press attending any meeting of the Council open to the public (except Licensing Sub Committees and where the public have been formally excluded) are allowed to record and/or report all or part of that meeting. Details of the Council's policy are available at www.leicester.gov.uk or from Democratic Support.

If you intend to film or make an audio recording of a meeting you are asked to notify the relevant Democratic Support Officer in advance of the meeting to ensure that participants can be notified in advance and consideration given to practicalities such as allocating appropriate space in the public gallery etc.

The aim of the Regulations and of the Council's policy is to encourage public interest and engagement so in recording or reporting on proceedings members of the public are asked:

- ✓ 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

FIRE / EMERGENCY EVACUATION

If the emergency alarm sounds, you must evacuate the building immediately by the nearest available fire exit and proceed to the area outside the Ramada Encore Hotel on Charles Street as directed by Democratic Services staff. Further instructions will then be given.

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. TERMS OF REFERENCE

**Appendix A
Page1**

To note the attached Terms of Reference for the Committee and Standards Advisory Board.

4. MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

The Monitoring Officer to report that, following the Council meeting held on 18 June 2015, the membership of the Committee is as follows:-

Councillors:

Chair: Councillor Senior
Vice Chair: Councillor Shelton
Councillor Palmer
Councillor Sood

Independent Members:

Fiona Barber
Amanda Fitchett
Desmond Henderson
Stephen Purser

David Lindley and Caroline Roberts are still the Independent Persons advising the Committee.

5. DATES OF MEETINGS

The Monitoring Officer to report, that following the meeting of Council on 18 June 2015, the dates of Committee meetings for the remainder of the 2015/16

Municipal Year are:-

Wednesday 13 January 2016

Wednesday 16 March 2016

6. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee, held on 21 January 2015 and the Special Meeting held on 4 February 2015, have been previously circulated and Members are asked to confirm that they are correct.

7. MEMBERS AND PROCUREMENT

Appendix B
Page 3

The Monitoring Officer to give a verbal update on Member's involvement in procurement. Following a request by the Council's Overview and Select Committee on 15 January 2015, the Committee previously considered this issue at a Special Meeting held on 4 February 2015. The Committee's views were reported back to the Overview and Select Committee's meeting on 9 July and extract of the Minutes for the meeting are attached for information.

8. PROTOCOL - MEMBER CONDUCT AT MEETINGS

Appendix C
Page 7

The Monitoring Officer to submit the Protocol for Member Conduct at Meetings which was agreed by the Committee on January 13, 2010. The Monitoring Officer requests the Committee to review the protocol to determine whether any amendments are necessary.

9. CONSTITUTION - OFFICER PROCEDURE RULES

Appendix D
Pages 9-31

The Monitoring Officer to report that the Council, at its meeting on 18 June 2015, approved changes to the Officer Employment Procedure Rules in Part 41 of the Constitution to ensure compliance with the new statutory dismissal procedures for the Head of Paid Service; Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer.

The following documents are attached:

- Discussion item, new procedures for dismissal of Head of Paid Service; Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer. D1 – Page 9
- Local Government Association – Advisory Bulletin No 624. Workforce: Employment Relations. D2 – Page 13
- Local Authority (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulation 2015. D3 – Page 31

10. COMPLAINT AGAINST COUNCILLORS - UPDATE

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Page 37

The Monitoring Officer submits a report giving feedback on complaints against Councillors reviewed and/or determined since the last meeting and updating

the Committee on progress with outstanding complaints against Councillors. The Committee is recommended to receive and note the report.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO NOTE

This report is a public document but during its consideration, Members may wish to discuss some of the issues in more detail. Under the law, the Committee is entitled to consider certain items in private. In this event, the committee will make the following resolution and the press and members of the public will be asked to leave the meeting when such items are discussed.

“that the press and public be excluded during consideration of the following reports in accordance with the provisions of Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, because they involve the likely disclosure of 'exempt' information, as defined in the Paragraphs detailed below of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and taking all the circumstances into account, it is considered that the public interest in maintaining the information as exempt outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Paragraph 1

Information relating to any individual.

Paragraph 2

Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.

Paragraph 7c

The deliberations of a standards committee or of a sub-committee of a standards committee established under the provisions of Part 3 of the Local Government Act 2000 in reaching any finding on a matter referred under the provisions of section 60(2) or (3), 64(2), 70(4) or (5) or 71(2) of that Act.

11. ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2015

Appendix F Page 39

The Monitoring Officer submits the Draft Annual Report of the Standards Committee July 2013-June 2015 which provides and analysis of cases referred.

Members are asked to note the report and make any amendments.

The report is attached for Members only, as it is still in draft form.

“In accordance with Rule 1 of Part 4B of the Constitution (Access to Information – Procedure Rules) the report is not available in the public domain as it is in ‘draft’ form and is only circulated to Members of the Committee at this stage. Should Members wish to discuss specific circumstances, the Monitoring Officer may need to advise Members to exclude the public and press, and discuss the issues in private session.”

12. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS