



Leicester
City Council

MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

DATE: WEDNESDAY, 28 JANUARY 2004

TIME: 5.30 PM

**PLACE: COMMITTEE ROOM 3, 'B' BLOCK, NEW WALK CENTRE,
KING STREET, LEICESTER**

Members of the Committee

Councillors Coley, Getliffe, and O'Brien
Ms. Jill Bellingham (Independent Member)
Mrs. Caroline Roberts (Independent Member)

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

for Town Clerk

Officer contact: Mike Keen
Committee Services, Town Clerk's Department
Leicester City Council
New Walk Centre, Welford Place, Leicester LE1 6ZG
(Tel. 0116 252 6028 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 Scrutiny Committees, as well as meetings of the full Council. You can ask questions and make representations to Scrutiny Committees and Council. You also have the right to see copies of agendas and minutes. Dates of meetings are available at the Customer Service Centre. There are, however, 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

The Committee Rooms at New Walk Centre are all accessible to wheelchair users. If wheelchair access is required for Council meetings, which are held at the Town Hall, please contact Charles Poole on 252 7015 or call in at the Customer Service Centre.

BRAILLE/AUDIO TAPE

If there are any particular reports that you would like translating into Braille or providing on audio tape, the Committee Administrator can provide this for you (production times will depend upon equipment/facility availability).

General Enquiries - if you have any queries about any of the above or the business to be discussed, please contact Mike Keen, Committee Administrator on (0116) 252 6025 or call in at the Customer Service Centre.

Press Enquiries - please phone the Communications Unit on 252 6081

PUBLIC SESSION

AGENDA

1. 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.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING Appendix A

The minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 24 September 2003 are attached and the Committee is asked to approve them as a correct record.

3. STANDARDS BOARD FOR ENGLAND - THIRD ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF STANDARDS COMMITTEES Appendix B

The Town Clerk submits a report giving details of the Third Annual Assembly of Standards Committees, to be held on 13th & 14th September 2004. Members are asked to consider the level of representation from the City Council at the conference in order that appropriate reservations can be made.

4. THE ADJUDICATION PANEL FOR ENGLAND APPEAL PROCESS AND FORM Appendix C

The Town Clerk submits a report which informs the Committee that Adjudication Panel for England has produced an Appeal Form to be used if a member wishes to appeal against a decision of a Standards Committee made in accordance with the Local Determination Regulations. The Committee is requested to note the existence and contents of the form and to agree that the use of the Form, along with the Adjudication Panel's postal address and website details be incorporated into the Council's Local Determination Procedure.

5. STANDARDS BOARD FOR ENGLAND - GUIDANCE REGARDING DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - FREEMASONS Appendix D

The Town Clerk submits a report giving details of the advice of the Standards Board for England in relation to Members declarations concerning membership of the Freemasons. The Committee is asked to note the guidance on Declarations of Interest by Freemasons produced by the Standards Board for England; and endorse that the attention be drawn, by letter, to all Members of Council, including co-opted members, regarding the guidance now produced by the Standards Board for England.

6. AGENDA NOTE - STANDARDS BOARD FOR ENGLAND - REVISED LEAFLET - GUIDE TO MAKING A COMPLAINT

The Standards Board for England has published a revised version of its leaflet: 'How to Make a Complaint'. This revised version incorporates the provisions regarding local determination of allegations.

A copy of the leaflet is attached for the information of Members.

A copy of the leaflet will be circulated to each elected Member, and Corporate Director. Copies will also be available from Council Customer Access Points.

Finally, a link will be made on the Members Section of the City Council web site to the Standards Board for England to enable Members of the public to gain electronic access to the document if they so wish.

7. AGENDA NOTE - COMPLAINTS RELATING TO ELECTED MEMBERS

The Town Clerk to brief Members on the current number and nature of complaints against Elected Members.

8. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS