



Leicester
City Council

WARDS AFFECTED
All Wards - Corporate Issue

FORWARD TIMETABLE OF CONSULTATION AND MEETINGS:
Standards Committee

21 November 2007

**The Standards Board for England - Revised Members Code of Conduct
- Fact Sheets and DVD**

Report of the Service Director (Democratic Services)

1. Purpose of Report

To bring to the attention of the Committee a range of material produced by the Standards Board for England on the key elements of the Revised Code of Conduct for Members

2. Report

To complement the implementation of the Revised Code of Conduct for Members the Standards Board for England has now produced a range of training and explanatory material.

In addition to the Powerpoint presentation on the Revised Code, which has been utilised to form the core of the briefing presentation for all City Councillors in the training on the Revised Code, a DVD and range of Fact Sheets have now also been produced.

The DVD 'The Code Uncovered' has been produced to help Monitoring Officers, Councillors and Standards Committees understand their obligations under the Code. It uses a dramatised scenario to illustrate the lead-up to a potentially explosive planning committee meeting, and highlights the key changes to the Revised Code. This DVD will be available to view immediately following this meeting of the Committee and can also be loaned to Members of the Committee. Consideration is also being given as to how clips from the DVD can be incorporated into future training on the Revised Code of Conduct.

A series of Fact Sheets have also been produced on the following topics within the Revised Members Code:-

- Bullying
- Disclosing Confidential Information
- Gifts and Hospitality
- Lobbying Groups and Declarations of Interest
- Personal and Prejudicial Interests

- The Ethical Framework for Local Government

Copies of each of these Fact Sheets are appended to this report.

It is proposed that these Fact Sheets be circulated to all Members and key officers in the Council, but singularly rather than as all together, in the hope that this will more readily attract the attention of the readership and also keep the subject of standards and ethical conduct refreshed in the minds of all concerned.

These Fact Sheets are also being included on the Standards and Ethical Conduct area of the Council's Intranet and Internet sites which is being set up arising out of decisions taken at the October 2007 meeting of the Committee.

3. Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to:-

- (i) note the training materials on the Revised Code of Conduct for Members produced by the Standards Board for England'
- (ii) endorse the proposed uses of the training material detailed in the report;
- (iii) consider whether it wishes the materials to be utilised in any other ways.

4. Financial, Legal and Other Implications

4.1. Financial Implications

There are no financial implications. (Andy Morley, Chief Accountant)

4.2 Legal Implications

There are no legal implications. (Peter Nicholls, Service Director, Legal Services)

5. Other Implications

OTHER IMPLICATIONS	YES/NO	Paragraph Within Supporting References information
Equal Opportunities	No	
Policy	No	
Sustainable and Environmental	No	
Crime and Disorder	No	
Human Rights Act	No	
Elderly/People on Low Income	No	

6. Background Papers – Local Government Act 1972

None.

7. Consultations

None

8. Report Author

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