

REVIEW OF ASSESSMENT CRITERIA – HEARSAY EVIDENCE

At its meeting on 4 February 2009, the Standards Committee asked the Monitoring Officer to include in the assessment criteria an explanation that the Sub-Committees would require a level of tangible or checkable facts that, if proven, could be a breach of the Code of Conduct.

The Monitoring Officer asks Members to confirm the following text for inclusion in the assessment criteria:

"Has the complainant submitted enough information?"

The complainant must submit enough information which, if proven, would show that the subject member has acted in breach of the Code at the time of the alleged misconduct. Although it is not for the Assessment /Review Sub-Committees to investigate or to weigh up evidence/ reject evidence, even hearsay evidence, sufficient tangible facts must be presented for assessment to enable a decision to be made that a complaint should be referred to investigation or other action".