

## REPORT FOR RESOLUTION

**COMMITTEE:** Constitutional and Nomination Committee

**DATE:** 14 July 2010

**SUBJECT:** Parish Councillor Members of the Standards Committee

**REPORT OF:** The City Solicitor

---

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

To present to the Committee the nominations made by Ringway Parish Council for membership of the Standards Committee.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. To note that Ringway Parish Council is functioning once again.
2. To note the requirements concerning the involvement of parish councillors with the Standards Committee.
3. To note the nominations made by Ringway Parish Council for the two vacant parish councillor vacancies on the Standards Committee.
4. To recommend that full Council appoint the Ringway Parish Council's nominees to the vacant parish councillor positions on the Standards Committee.

### **FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCES FOR REVENUE BUDGET:**

None

### **FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCES FOR CAPITAL BUDGET:**

None

### **WARDS AFFECTED:**

All

### **IMPLICATIONS FOR:**

Antipoverty	Equal Opportunities	Environment	Employment
No	No	No	No

## **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:**

The Local Government Act 2000  
The Standards Committee (England) Regulations 2008  
Standards Board Guidance – The Role and Make-up of Standards Committees

## **CONTACT OFFICERS:**

Susan Orrell, City Solicitor and Monitoring Officer  
Ext 3087 [s.orrell@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:s.orrell@manchester.gov.uk)  
Rodney Lund, Assistant City Solicitor and Deputy Monitoring Officer  
Ext 4019 [r.lund@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:r.lund@manchester.gov.uk)  
Karen Chadwick, Solicitor  
Ext 3539 [k.chadwick@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:k.chadwick@manchester.gov.uk)  
Stephen Hollard, Senior Legal Officer  
Ext 3336 [s.hollard@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:s.hollard@manchester.gov.uk)

## **Background**

1. Ringway Parish is the only civil parish within the City of Manchester and it has its own parish council. However, for a number of years Ringway Parish Council had been moribund, with no candidates standing at the parish council elections in 2007 nor at the subsequent reruns. This, coupled with a history of previous periods of inactivity, gave rise to concerns about its future viability.
2. When consulted as part of the recent community governance review undertaken by the Committee, the electors of Ringway expressed strong support for the retention of parish arrangements, including the parish council. Therefore, the final recommendations of the Committee at the completion of the review were, in relation to Ringway, that parish arrangements should be retained with the following provisos:
  - That the number of parish councillors be reduced from 8 to 5 (the legal minimum).
  - That the ordinary year of election for the parish council be brought forward, from 2011 (and every 4 years thereafter) to 2010 (and every 4 years thereafter).
  - That, if the parish council is not properly carrying out its statutory obligations, the continuance of parish arrangements in Ringway shall be reviewed by the City Council after two years.

These final recommendations were implemented by the Council.

3. Having brought forward the parish council elections, there are now 5 parish councillors in office. The parish council held its Annual Meeting on 9 June 2010.
4. The Committee is asked to note that Ringway Parish Council is functioning once again.

### **Parish Council Involvement with the Standards Committee**

5. The Standards Committee is responsible for standards matters involving Ringway Parish Council. Similarly, Manchester City Council's Monitoring Officer is also the Monitoring Officer for Ringway Parish Council.
6. The law requires that the Standards Committee must have at least two members who are parish councillors for parish councils for which the City Council is responsible (i.e. Ringway) and who are not members of the City Council. A parish member must be present when matters relating to such a parish council or its members are being considered by the Standards Committee.
7. The Committee is asked to note the requirements concerning the involvement of parish councillors with the Standards Committee.

### **Nominees for the Vacant Parish Councillor Committee Posts**

8. Following the 2007 parish council elections, there were no parish councillors in office to take-up the parish councillor vacancies on the Standards Committee. Following the 2010 parish council elections parish councillors are now in office and Ringway Parish Council has nominated the following to fill the two parish councillor vacancies:
  - Councillor Christopher O'Donovan
  - Councillor Peter Johnson
9. The Standards Committee has been informed of the nominations.
10. The Committee is asked to note the nominations made by Ringway Parish Council to fill the parish councillor vacancies on the Standards Committee.
11. The Committee is also asked to recommend to the full Council that the nominees be appointed to the Standards Committee.