

## **Standards Committee**

Date: Wednesday 1 February 2006

**Time: 9.00am** 

Place: Committee Room 5, Level 3, Town Hall Extension

Everybody is welcome to attend Council and Committee meetings.

The Standards Committee is chaired by the Lord Mayor and comprises five members of the City Council, two independent members, and a councillor representative of Ringway Parish Council. The Committee deals with matters relating to the conduct of City and Parish Councillors and the promotion of ethical standards.

Items of business for consideration at a meeting are set out on the agenda sheet. Most items take the form of a report containing Council officers' recommendations which may or may not be accepted by the Committee. Officers attend meetings to present their reports or give advice to members. They do not have a vote.

The Registers of Interest declared by all councilors and the Register of Gifts and Hospitality are submitted for inspection at each meeting

Copies of the agenda are available beforehand from the reception area at the St.Peter's Square entrance to the Town Hall Extension. Additional copies are available at the meeting from the Committee Officer.

It is the Council's policy to consult people as fully as possible before making decisions which affect them. Members of the public do not have a right to speak at meetings but the Committee will usually allow applicants and objectors to address them for up to four minutes. If you have a special interest in an item on the agenda and want to speak, tell the Committee Officer, who will pass on your request to the Chair.

The law allows certain confidential items to be discussed in private and these will be taken at the end of the meeting at which point members of the public are asked to leave. The Council is concerned to ensure that its meetings are as open as possible and confidential business is kept to the strict minimum. Brief reasons for confidentiality are shown on the agenda sheet.

Crèche facilities are available for visitors to the Town Hall by prior arrangement with the St. Peter's Children's Centre (Telephone : 0161 234 3246).

#### Smoking is not permitted in Council buildings or outside the Town Hall

Each Committee is serviced by a Committee Officer. If you have any questions about this or other meetings, please contact the Committee Services Section on the number below.

Sir Howard Bernstein Chief Executive Town Hall Manchester M60 2LA

**Agenda issued** 24 January 2006

Committeee Officer Roger Fielding TEL: 0161 234 3042 FAX: 0161 234 3241

# **Agenda**

### **Standards Committee - 1 February 2006**

#### Standard items

#### 1. Urgent business

To consider any items which the Chair has agreed to have submitted as urgent.

#### 2. Appeals

To consider any appeals from the public against refusal to allow inspection of background documents and/or the inclusion of items in the confidential part of the agenda.

#### 3. Interests

To allow Members an opportunity to (a) declare any personal or prejudicial interests they might have in any items on the agenda; (b) record any items from which they are precluded from voting as a result of Council Tax/Council rent arrears.

Members with a personal interest should declare the nature of that interest at the start of the item under consideration. If members also have a prejudicial interest, then in addition to declaring it, they must also withdraw from the meeting during the consideration of the item.

#### 4. Minutes

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2006 (enclosed)

#### 5. Exclusion of Public

The officers consider that the following items contain confidential information as provided for in the Local Government Access to Information Act and recommend that they be considered in private. The meeting is asked, therefore, to pass the following resolution:

"That the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of item containing confidential information as defined in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972 and as indicated against the relevant item".

An appeal process exists for members of the public who wish to appeal against the officers' recommendation for confidentiality. Anyone who does wish to appeal should contact the Committee Officer as soon as possible (preferably at least 48 hours) before the meeting.

#### 6. REPORT REFERENCE SBE10571.05

Report of the City Solicitor.

Public Excluded by virtue of the disclosure of exempt information of the type referred to in Paragraphs 16 &19, Part 1,Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)