



# Standards Committee

**Date: Monday 11 September 2006**

**Time: 10.30am**

**Place: Committee Room 11, Level 1, Town Hall**

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 councillors 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.

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**Sir Howard Bernstein**  
Chief Executive  
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Manchester M60 2LA

**Agenda issued**  
1 September 2006

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# Agenda

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## Standards Committee - 11 September 2006

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### 1. **Appointment of Chair**

The Constitution of the Council prescribes that the Lord Mayor is Chair of the Standards Committee 'ex officio'.

Following the death of the Lord Mayor on 12 August it is necessary for the Committee to appoint a member as chair of this meeting of the Committee.

### 2. **Urgent business**

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

### 3. **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.

### 4. **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.

### 5. **Minutes**

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2006 (enclosed)

### 6. **Independent Members**

To welcome the Committee's new independent members, Mr John Andrew Snadden and Mrs Elizabeth Carmichael to their first meeting.

To consider adopting a resolution of thanks to Mr Arthur Wright for his past service to the Committee, and to formally record the services to the Committee of the late John Worstencroft-Parr.

### 7. **Ethical Governance Toolkit** (Report of the City Solicitor)

**8. Standards Board Fifth Annual Assembly**

The Fifth Annual Assembly will take place on the 16-17 October 2006 at the International Conference Centre (ICC), Birmingham “Bridging the gap towards effective local regulation”. Five places have been reserved at this event. Both of the independent members will be attending along with the Head of Democratic Services, and the Committee is now invited to nominate two elected members to attend. It is intended that the conference will build on the foundations laid by last year’s conference and delegates will be encouraged to assess where their authority is now in terms of delivering on the criteria that the ethical framework, their communities and others within the local government family expect of them, and to provide ideas and best practice for driving forward change and improvement.

**9. Registers of (a) Interest and (b) Gifts and Hospitality**

The Register of Interests and the Register of Gifts and Hospitality will be available for inspection at the meeting.