



Standards Committee

Date: Monday 5th March 2007

Time: 4.30pm

Place: Lord Mayor's Office, Level 4, 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.

Sir Howard Bernstein
Chief Executive
Town Hall
Manchester M60 2LA

Agenda issued
23 February 2007

Committee Officer
Roger Fielding
TEL: 0161 234 3042
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Agenda

Standards Committee - 5 March 2007

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 15 January 2007 enclosed)
5. **REVISED MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT ("THE REVISED CODE") FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERS**

Report of the City Solicitor.
6. **STANDARDS BOARD FOR ENGLAND ("SBE") ROADSHOW 2007**

The SBE is hosting a series of 11 roadshows across the country in June 2007. The focus will be on the Revised Code and preparation for the proposed introduction of the local filter system for complaints in 2008. The roadshows will offer an opportunity to discuss any issues that have arisen since the implementation of the Revised Code and any concerns about local preparation for dealing with complaints. The roadshows will take the format of presentations and discussions, and delegates will be encouraged to participate in question and answer sessions. They are aimed at monitoring officers and members from local standards committees.

We propose to reserve places at either the event taking place in Liverpool on 6 June 2007 or the event taking place in Leeds on 7 June 2007. Members are

asked to recommend which event we should reserve places for and to nominate three members of Standards Committee to attend. The City Solicitor or her nominee will also attend the event.

7. SBE SIXTH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY 2007

The Sixth Annual Assembly of Standards Committees will take place on the 15-16 October 2007 at the International Conference Centre (ICC), Birmingham. SBE have advised that further information will be available soon. Members are asked to consider how many places in addition to a place for the City Solicitor or her nominee should be reserved and to nominate members to attend.

8. RAISING THE PROFILE OF ETHICAL STANDARDS, CONDUCT AND BEHAVIOUR ACROSS THE COUNCIL

Report of the City Solicitor to follow.

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.