



# Standards Committee

**Date: Monday 14 January 2008**

**Time: 11.30am NOTE LATER TIME**

**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.

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

**Agenda issued**

**Committee Officer**  
Roger Fielding  
TEL: 0161 234 3042  
FAX: 0161 234 3241

# Agenda

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## Standards Committee - 14 January 2008

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### 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 25 June 2007 enclosed)
5. **Communities and Local Government Consultation paper on orders and regulations relating to the Conduct of Local Authority Members in England and update on the Standards Board for England pilots**  
Report of the City Solicitor.
6. **Revised Code of Conduct Briefing update**  
Oral report.
7. **Seventh Annual Assembly of Standards Committees  
15 – 16 October 2007 - Oral report back on.**

The Seventh Annual Assembly of Standards Committees will take place on 13-14 October 2008 at the International Convention Centre in Birmingham. The SBE advise that further information will be available in spring 2008. 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. 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.