



**MANCHESTER**  
CITY COUNCIL

## **Standards Committee**

**Date: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2008**

**Time: 10.30am**

**Place: Committee Room 6, Level 3, Town Hall Extension.**

The Standards Committee is chaired by an Independent Member and comprises seven councillors and three independent members. The Committee deals with matters relating to the conduct of City and Parish Councillors and the promotion of ethical standards within the corporate governance framework.

The current Members of the Standards Committee are :-

	Mr John Snadden (Chair)	
Councillor Tony Burns	Councillor Sameem Ali	Councillor Glynn Evans
Councillor Alison Firth	Councillor Tom O'Callaghan	Councillor David Sandiford
Councillor Keith Whitmore	Mrs Elizabeth Carmichael	Mrs Amanda Isles

The members of the Committee will constitute panels to make initial assessments of written allegations of breaches of the Members' Code of Conduct and determine whether to refer allegations to the Monitoring officer (an officer of the Council) for investigation, or to refer the allegation to the Standards Board for England for investigation. The panel may also decide that no action should be taken in respect of an allegation. Review Panels will also consider requests to review initial assessment decisions and the detailed reports on any matters referred by assessment panels for detailed investigation.

Members of the public do not have a right to speak at meetings, however, 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).

Each Committee is serviced by an officer from the Governance and Scrutiny Support Unit. If you have any questions about this or other meetings, please contact the Unit on the number below.

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

**Agenda issued**  
7 November 2008

**Committee Officer**  
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# Agenda

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## Standards Committee - 17 November 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 8<sup>th</sup> September 2008 enclosed)
5. **Communities in Control: Real People, Real Powers - Codes of Conduct for Local Authority members and employees – consultation** (Report of the City Solicitor.
6. **Monitoring Report** Report of the City Solicitor.
7. **Ethical governance update** Report of the City Solicitor.
8. **Dates of Panel meetings** Report of the City Solicitor
9. **Seventh Annual Assembly of Standards Committees – 13/14 October 2008**  
Feedback on issues arising from this year's annual assembly "Delivering the goods: local standards in action" which focused on the new local system for dealing with complaints about members which has been in place since 8 May 2008. Delegates included Councillor Burns, Councillor Whitmore, Elizabeth

Carmichael, John Andrew Snadden and the Monitoring Officer's nominee Karen Chadwick.

The Eighth Annual Assembly of Standards Committees will be returning to the ICC in Birmingham on 12-13 October 2009. Members are asked to consider how many places should be reserved and to nominate members to attend.

**10. Register of Interests**

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