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**Manchester City Council  
Report for Resolution**

**Report to:** Standards Committee – 22 September 2016  
**Subject:** Membership of the Standards (Hearing) Sub-Committee  
**Report of:** The City Solicitor

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**Purpose of the report:**

To assist the Standards Committee in reconsidering the membership of the Standards (Hearing) Sub-Committee in light of changes to the membership of the Standards Committee.

**Recommendations:**

That appointments be made to the Standards (Hearing) Sub-Committee so that its membership is as detailed at paragraph 3.2 below.

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**Wards Affected:** All

**Financial Consequences for Revenue Budget:**

None.

**Financial Consequences for the Capital Budget:**

None.

**Implications for:**

|             |                     |             |            |
|-------------|---------------------|-------------|------------|
| Antipoverty | Equal Opportunities | Environment | Employment |
| No          | No                  | No          | No         |

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## **1. Background**

- 1.1 At its meeting of 22 October 2015 the Committee established a Standards (Hearing) Sub-Committee to undertake the role of the hearing panel as described in the Council's arrangements for dealing with complaints that Council Members have failed to comply with the Code ("the Arrangements"), and delegated to the Sub-Committee the functions of the Standards Committee set out at Articles 9.3(f) and 9.3(g) of the Council's Constitution.
- 1.2 The Arrangements state that the membership of the sub-committee will comprise of at least one of the Independent Members of the Standards Committee along with three elected Members of the Standards Committee. Where the hearing concerns a complaint about a Member of Ringway Parish Council the co-opted Parish Council Member of the Standards Committee will also be included in the sub-committee.
- 1.3 Since the establishment of the Standards (Hearing) Sub-Committee one of its members (Councillor Trotman) has ceased to be a member of the authority. Additionally, it is expected that when the Standards Committee considers this report three additional members will have been appointed to the Standards Committee. In light of these changes the Committee may wish to reconsider the membership of the Sub-Committee.

## **2. Original Membership of the Standards (Hearing) Sub-Committee**

- 2.1 When the Sub-Committee was established its membership was designated as follows:
  - *The Independent Member who is appointed as Chair of the Standards Committee shall be Chair of the Standards (Hearing) Sub-Committee. [The other Independent Member being a substitute].*
  - *Councillors Andrews, Evans and Trotman shall be members of the Standards (Hearing) Sub-Committee. [Councillor Cooley being a substitute].*
  - *Where the Standards (Hearing) Sub-Committee is considering a complaint against a member of Ringway Parish Council, the Parish Member of the Standards Committee shall be a member of the Standards (Hearing) Sub-Committee.*

## **3. Proposed Membership of the Standards (Hearing) Sub-Committee**

- 3.1 As Councillor Trotman is no longer a member of the Council it is proposed that Councillor Cooley (who is currently designated as a substitute member of the Sub-Committee) become an ordinary member of the Sub-Committee; the status of the other existing members and substitute members of the Committee should remain unchanged. It is further proposed that Councillors Connolly, Lanchbury and Reeves (if, as anticipated, they are appointed by the Council to the Committee) become substitute members of the Sub-Committee.

- 3.2 The recommended membership of the Sub-Committee is therefore as set out below:

| Members of the Sub-Committee   | Substitute Members  |
|--|---|
| The Independent Member who has been appointed as Chair of the Standards Committee shall be Chair of the Standards (Hearing) Sub-Committee – currently this is Nicolé Jackson | The other Independent Member of the Standards Committee – currently this is Geoff Linnell |
| Councillor Andrews   | Councillor Lanchbury  |
| Councillor Cooley  | Councillor Connolly   |
| Councillor Evans   | Councillor Reeves   |

Where the Standards (Hearing) Sub-Committee is considering a complaint against a member of Ringway Parish Council, the Parish Member of the Standards Committee (currently Councillor O'Donovan) shall be a member of the Standards (Hearing) Sub-Committee.

#### **4. Recommendations**

- 4.1 Recommendations to the Committee are set out at the start of this report.