

**STANDARDS COMMITTEE**  
**10 JUNE 2010**

Present: Independent members: -  
Mrs S Fellows (in the Chair)  
Mr R Spiring

Councillors Daniel, Finch, Gurney, Lock, Roberts and Westley.

**1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

**2. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** – that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 March 2010 be approved and signed by the chair as a correct record.

**3. ANNUAL REPORT OF STANDARDS COMMITTEE TO COUNCIL**

The Borough Solicitor and Monitoring Officer presented a draft report to Council on the activities of Standards Committee for the previous municipal year.

**RESOLVED** - that the draft report be adopted for reference to full Council subject to the amendment of paragraph 5 which is to be reworded to explain the absence of the Liberal Democratic Group representation on the Standards Committee for the past municipal year.

**4. TRAINING FOR MEMBERS 2010/2011**

The Borough Solicitor and Monitoring Officer presented a report recommending a programme of training for members on Code of Conduct and related issues. The proposed areas for training were: -

Declarations of Interest;

Protocol for Relationships between Members and Officers;

Dual-Hatted Members;

Predisposition, predetermination and bias and interests; and

Chairing of Meetings.

**RESOLVED** – that the suggested programme of training be agreed.

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**5. THE FUTURE OF THE STANDARDS REGIME**

The Borough Solicitor and Monitoring Officer orally reported on a letter received from Dr Robert Chilton, Chair of Standards for England regarding the Government announcement in the Queen's Speech of its intention to "abolish the Standards Board regime". It reminded the Council that the statutory framework remained operative until changed by the proposed Decentralisation and Localism Bill.

The letter was circulated immediately prior to the start of the meeting and was considered, with the approval of the Chair, as a matter of urgency, because Members needed to be aware that the Code of Conduct and the standards framework remained in force until it was changed by primary legislation.

**RESOLVED – that the report be noted.**

(The Chair declared the meeting closed at 6.34 pm)