

Standards Committee

Agenda and Reports

For consideration on

**Thursday, 17th September
2009**

In Committee Room 1, Town Hall, Chorley

At 2.00 pm



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9 September 2009

Dear Councillor/Colleague,

STANDARDS COMMITTEE - THURSDAY, 17TH SEPTEMBER 2009

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Standards Committee to be held in Committee Room 1, Town Hall, Chorley on Thursday, 17th September 2009 commencing at 2.00 pm.

AGENDA

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

The Chair will welcome the newly appointed Independent Members to the Committee.

2. **Apologies for absence**

3. **Minutes (Pages 1 - 6)**

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee held on 18 June 2009 (enclosed).

4. **Declarations of Any Interests**

Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda. If the interest arises **only** as result of your membership of another public body or one to which you have been appointed by the Council then you only need to declare it if you intend to speak.

If the personal interest is a prejudicial interest, you must withdraw from the meeting. Normally you should leave the room before the business starts to be discussed. You do, however, have the same right to speak as a member of the public and may remain in the room to enable you to exercise that right and then leave immediately. In either case you must not seek to improperly influence a decision on the matter.

5. **News from Standards for England**

The Monitoring Officer will present a verbal update.

6. **Cases update (Pages 7 - 54)**

To receive the report of the Monitoring Officer, the quarterly return to Standards for England and a verbal update on current local cases, if any.

7. **Bringing Standards into Focus 2009 Annual Assembly of Standards Committees**

To consider any issues the Committee would like the Chair and Vice-Chair to raise at the Annual Assembly in October.

8. **Granting of dispensations: the new guidance (Pages 55 - 58)**

To receive the report of the Monitoring Officer and recently issued guidance from Standards for England on granting dispensations under the new regulations (enclosed).

9. **Probity in Planning (Pages 59 - 60)**

To receive the report of the Monitoring Officer and revised guidance note on good planning practice for Councillors and officers dealing with planning matters.

10. **Feedback from visits to Parish Councils (Pages 61 - 62)**

Members of the Committee will give feedback on their visits to Parish Councils. The allocation of Committee members to Parishes is enclosed for information.

11. **Notifications to parish councils concerning complaints (Pages 63 - 64)**

To discuss the Parish Council notification procedures highlighted in the latest version of the Town and Parish Standard.

The Committee's thoughts are requested on any recommendations to make to Town and Parish Councils.

12. **Work undertaken to promote the Code of Conduct**

The Monitoring Officer will present a verbal update.

13. **Standards Sub-Committee**

To confirm the membership of the Standards Sub-Committee for the ensuing Municipal Year as Tony Ellwood (Independent Member), Mike Devaney (Borough Councillor) and Joan Geddes (Parish Council representative).

14. **Standards Committee Work Programme (Pages 65 - 66)**

The Committee will consider the Work Programme for 2009 (enclosed).

15. **Any other item(s) that the Chair decides is/are urgent**

Yours sincerely

Donna Hall

Donna Hall
Chief Executive

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Distribution

1. Agenda and reports to all Members of the Standards Committee (Tony Ellwood (Chair), Councillor Mike Devaney and Councillors Judith Boothman, Catherine Hoyle, Debra Platt, Stella Walsh, Hugh Evans (Independent Member), Gwynne Furlong (Independent Member), Joan Geddes (Parish Council representative), Mason (Parish Council representative) and Alan Platt (Parish Council representative) for attendance.
2. Agenda and reports to Andrew Docherty (Director of Governance - Monitoring Officer) and Ruth Rimmington (Democratic and Member Services Officer) for attendance.

This information can be made available to you in larger print or on audio tape, or translated into your own language. Please telephone 01257 515118 to access this service.

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ان معلومات کا ترجمہ آپ کی اپنی زبان میں بھی کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ یہ خدمت استعمال کرنے کیلئے براہ مہربانی اس نمبر پر ٹیلیفون

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کیجئے: