

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a meeting of the Standards Committee held on Wednesday 16 April 2008 at County Hall, Lewes.

4. PRESENT - Mrs C Swan (Independent Chairman),
Councillors Daniel, Stogdon and Woodall

5. MINUTES

- 5.1 RESOLVED - to approve the minutes of the last meeting held on 10 July 2007 as a correct record.

6. THE LOCAL ASSESSMENT OF COMPLAINTS REGARDING MEMBERS' CONDUCT

6.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director of Law and Personnel (copy in the Minute Book). The Committee considered the implementation of the local assessment of complaints regarding members' conduct, and implications for the structure of the Standards Committee

- 6.2 RESOLVED – to recommend the Governance Committee to:

1. increase the membership of the Standards Committee to three co-opted independent members;
2. delegate to the Director of Law authority to appoint members of the Standards Committee to a referral Sub-Committee, Referrals Review Sub-Committee, and an Hearing and Determination Sub-Committee as and when needed in order to deal with complaints made to the Standards Committee for allegations of breach of the Code of Conduct for Members;
3. delegate to the Director of Law authority to make necessary amendments to the Constitution arising out of the implementation of the relevant regulations made under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007; and
4. ask the Standards Committee to review arrangements once the relevant regulations have been made.

Reason for decision

6.3 The original recommendation was to increase the size of the Standards Committee to three co-opted independent members and five elected members. Councillor Daniel moved an amendment to this recommendation to change the size of the Committee to three co-opted independent members and three elected members on the grounds that the committee size should be kept to a minimum. The amendment was carried.