

## **STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

MINUTES of a meeting of the Standards Committee held on Monday, 1 December 2008 at County Hall, Lewes.

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11. PRESENT - Mrs C Swan (Independent Chairman),  
Mr T Elliott (Independent member)  
Mrs A Holden (Independent member)  
Councillors Stogdon and Woodall

12. **MINUTES**

12.1 RESOLVED

(i) to approve the minutes of the last meeting held on 24 July 2008 as a correct record.

(ii) that where an allegation against a Councillor had been received, a summary report, withholding names of the complainant and the subject member, would be submitted to the Standards Committee for information and that the decision notice would be made available for inspection on request

13. **APOLOGIES**

13.1 Apologies were received from Councillor Daniel.

14. **CONSULTATION: COMMUNITIES IN CONTROL AND MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT**

14.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director of Law and Personnel (copy in the Minute Book) setting out a draft response to the recent consultation received from the Department of Communities and Local Government.

14.2 RESOLVED to agree the draft response subject to minor amendments being incorporated.

Reason for decision

14.3 The Department for Communities and Local Government had announced their intention to issue a series of consultation papers to inform the implementation of a number of provisions in the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. This included the consultation on the Code of conduct for local authority members. Members of the Committee had been requested to draft a response to the consultation on behalf of the Council.

15. **ASSESSMENT CRITERIA FOR THE DETERMINATION OF COMPLAINTS AGAINST COUNCILLORS**

15.1 The Committee considered a report by the Director of Law and Personnel (copy in Minute Book) setting out the assessment criteria for the determination of complaints against Councillors by the Assessment and Review Sub-committees.

15.2 RESOLVED to agree the assessment criteria subject to minor amendments.

Reason for decision

15.3 Additional roles and responsibilities had been given to the Standards Committee as a result of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, which amended Part 3 of the Local Government Act 2000. As a result in July 2008 the Standards Committee had introduced arrangements and procedures for the handling of complaints against Councillors. The assessment criteria would provide additional support and guidance for the assessment and review Sub-Committees when considering complaints.