

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 8 SEPTEMBER 2008

Present: Mr N Woodcock (Independent Member), Chairman.

Dr S Bradley (Independent Member); Mr V Chilton (Substitute Parish Member)

Councillors: Mrs M Docherty; G Garrity; Mrs M B Woodburn

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor N Clarkson and Mr R Stewart (Parish Member)

Officers: M Jepson, Head of Legal and Democratic Services; T Capper Democratic Services Manager

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2008 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

STA 03 Recruitment of Additional Independent Members

Members discussed the present position on the recruitment of additional independent members of the Standards Committee, following the withdrawal of two interested candidates due to their ineligibility. Members reviewed the methods already used for advertising and publicising the vacancy, and agreed that details should be circulated to local organisations including universities, Rotary, Lions, Soroptimists, WI and others as appropriate.

STA 04 Update on Work Plan

Members considered the current position on the items in the Standards Committee Work Plan. It was agreed that the facilitated workshop due in September should be held over until the outstanding recruitment is complete and the Standards Board be approached over the provision of a facilitator.

STA 05 Review of Assessment Procedure

The Committee reviewed the procedure recently agreed for the local assessment of complaints in the light of experience of the first case considered by an Assessment Sub Committee.

It was agreed that the existing Assessment Procedure be confirmed, subject to the addition for clarity of the following to paragraph 11:

“Before leaving the meeting the Members of the Assessment Sub Committee will satisfy themselves clearly on what decision has been made on the case(s) before them.”

STA 06 **Joint Meeting of Monitoring Officers and Standards Committee Chairs**

Members noted the arrangements for the joint meeting of Cumbria and Lancashire Monitoring Officers and Standards Committee on 22 October.

The meeting closed at 3.05 pm

Chairman

