

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 15 NOVEMBER 2007

Present: Mr N Woodcock (Independent Member), Chairman

Councillors: Mrs M Docherty; G Garrity.

Dr S Bradley, (Independent Member)

Mr V Chilton, (Substitute Parish Member)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors N Clarkson, D Moore and Mrs M B Woodburn, and Mr R Stewart (Parish Member)

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

STA 20 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 October 2007 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

STA 21 Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED - That pursuant to Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, as amended, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds of likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

STA 22 Local Determinations Procedure – Report of Investigating Officer

Prior to consideration of the substantive business members sought advice on the position of Councillors who were both members of the Planning Panel and of this Committee in considering the Investigating Officer's report.

The Committee then considered a report of the Investigating Officer appointed under the Council's Local Determinations Procedure to investigate alleged breaches of the Council's Code of Conduct for Members by a Member of the Council.

It was noted that the Investigating Officer had concluded that there was no case to answer, and that at this stage in the Procedure it was necessary for the Standards Committee to decide whether to accept the Investigating Officer's findings and conclusions, or to call a full hearing into the allegations.

After a full discussion it was

RESOLVED – that the Investigating Officer's findings and conclusions be accepted and endorsed, and the Investigating Officer thanked for his report.

The meeting closed at 11.55 am

Chairman