

## **STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 7 JUNE 2010**

Present: Dr S Bradley (Independent Member) (Chairman).

Councillors: N Clarkson; Mrs M Docherty; D Moore; R Salkeld; Mrs M Woodburn

Mr A Payne, (Independent Member); Mrs P Routledge (Independent Member)

Mr R Stewart; (Parish Member); Mr V Chilton (Parish Member)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor G Garrity; P Watson

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

#### **STA 28 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 March 2010 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

#### **STA 29 Update on Outstanding Cases**

The Committee received an update on outstanding investigations.

#### **STA 30 Profile of Complaints Pending Investigation**

A report was submitted summarising options available to the Committee in respect dealing with complaints before they are determined, in view of certain cases which had been the subject of local press articles.

**RESOLVED** that

- (a) Witnesses be advised during investigations that they should not discuss evidence with anyone other than their legal advisor and the investigator;
- (b) Councillors be advised that they should not speak to the press, even to confirm or deny the existence of an investigation, but to refer them to the Council's Senior Communications Officer; and
- (c) The Annual Report of the Standards Committee continues to summarise cases anonymously and in general terms in order to demonstrate the type of work carried out by the Standards Committee.

**STA 31     Annual Governance Statement 2009/2010**

The Committee considered and noted the Council's draft Annual Governance Statement for 2009/2010.

**STA 32     Annual Report of the Standards Committee**

The Committee noted that the Council meeting on 13 April had received and noted the first Annual Report of the Standards Committee.

The meeting closed at 3.17 pm

Chairman

