Agenda item 6



Standards Committee –20 April 2005

Standards Committee – Training 12 May 2005

Summary of report

This report advised the Committee of the arrangements made to provide training for members in respect of cases referred back by the Standards Board for England for local determination involving allegations that a member has breached the Code of Conduct. The training is arranged to take place on Thursday 12 May 2005 in a Conference Room at the Council House, Walsall, commencing at 10 am.

Recommendations

That the content of the report be noted.

Resource and legal considerations

There will be a financial cost to the Council as the provision of the training is being provided in conjunction with an outside consultant. The cost of the training will be met from current budgetary provision.

The training is designed to ensure that members of the Standards Committee and the officers who support it are practised in all the necessary procedures to ensure that any cases referred back for local determination are dealt with properly, in a manner which complies with the necessary legislative requirements and enables a fair and balanced decision to be made.

Environmental impact

None

Equality implications

The purpose of the training is to ensure that all members of the Standards Committee have the opportunity to participate in training which is designed to ensure that they can deal effectively with any cases referred back to the Committee for local determination.

Report detail

Committee at its meeting on 2 February 2005 requested that officers arrange training so that members of the Standards Committee have the opportunity to gain knowledge, experience and confidence in dealing with cases of alleged breaches of the Members Code of Conduct referred to them for local determination. Following this request, arrangements have been made for training to be provided on Thursday 12 May 2005. The training will be provided in conjunction with Mr. Colin Langley, a consultant and former Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer. Further details of the training and material to be considered will be provided to members closer to the day of the event.

Background papers

None

Signed:

Assistant Director Legal Services and Monitoring Officer

Date: April 2005

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