

Standards Committee

Monday 26 March, 2007 at 6.00 p.m.

at the Council House, Walsall

Present

Mr. R. Meller (Chairman)
Dr. K. Biscomb
Mrs. S.F. Parsons
Mr. R. Taylor
Councillor A. Underhill

211/07 Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Councillors Bentley and O'Hare and Mr. L. Bates and Ms. K. McLeod.

212/07 Minutes

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 October 2006, a copy having been circulated previously to each member of the Committee, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record, subject to the deletion of the word "Resolved" on page 2.

213/06 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

214/07 Appointment of independent members to Standards Committee

The report of the Assistant Director of Legal and Constitutional Services was submitted:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That the content of the report be noted.
- (2) That the Committee support the process proposed for the appointment of independent members to the Standards Committee and notes that the period of office recommended will be until the end of the 2009/10 municipal year.

215/07 **Sixth annual assembly of Standards Committees**

The report of the Assistant Director of Legal and Constitutional Services was submitted:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That the content of the report be noted.
- (2) That Mr. R. Meller and Mr. L. Bates, together with Dr. K. Biscomb be nominated to attend the Sixth Annual Assembly of the Standards Committee in Birmingham on 15 and 16 October 2007 and if for any reason any of the above members cannot attend, the matter be reconsidered and a substitution made.
- (3) That a letter be sent to the Leaders of each political group on the Council to forward nominations to attend the conference for the attention of the Monitoring Officer.

216/07 **Standards Board for England Roadshows 2007**

The report of the Assistant Director of Legal and Constitutional Services was submitted:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That the content of the report be noted,
- (2) That Mr. R. Meller, Mr. L. Bates and Dr. K. Biscomb be nominated to attend the Standards Board for England Roadshows in Birmingham on 14 June 2007 and to reflect the balance of the Standards Committee, one elected member be invited to attend.

217/07 **Standards Board for England – Bulletin**

The report of the Assistant Director of Legal and Constitutional Services was submitted:

(see annexed)

Resolved

- (1) That the content of the report be noted.
- (2) That a copy of the Standards Board for England Bulletin be circulated to all each member of the Council and co-optees.

218/07 **E-mail and internet usage policy**

The report of the Assistant Director of Legal and Constitutional Services was submitted:

(see annexed)

A brief presentation was given by David Blacker, Internal Audit, outlining the need for a new policy to which all staff and elected members will need to sign up to.

Resolved

That the Standards Committee approve the new E-mail and Internet Usage Policy and implementation plan.

The meeting terminated at 6.35 p.m.