

Standards Committee

Monday 4 July 2011 at 6.00 p.m.

at the Council House, Walsall

Present

Councillor A. Andrew
Mrs. H. Bashir
Ms. K. McLeod
Mr. R. Meller
Councillor D. Shires
Councillor G. Wilkes

379/11 **Appointment of Chairman**

Resolved

That Mr. R. Meller be appointed Chairman for the municipal year 2011/12.

380/11 **Appointment of Vice-Chairman**

Resolved

That Ms K. McLeod be appointed Vice-Chairman for the municipal year 2011/12.

381/11 **Apology**

An apology for non-attendance was submitted on behalf of Councillor Carpenter.

382/11 **Minutes**

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 24 January 2011 copies having been sent to each member of the Committee, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

383/11 **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

384/11 **Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 (as amended)**

There were no items to be considered in private session.

385/11 **The Bribery Act 2010**

The report of the Interim Head of Legal and Constitutional Services and Monitoring Officer was submitted:

(see annexed)

The Head of Audit (Miss R. Neill) presented the report and gave the Committee a brief overview of the four new offences created by the Act and highlighted the Council policies currently in place to prevent bribery, following which she answered questions raised by the Committee arising from the report.

Several Committee members made the point that the report should be forwarded to all elected members for information.

Resolved

- (1) That the content of the report be noted.
- (2) That a copy of the report be circulated to all elected members for information.

386/11 **Annual report of the Monitoring Officer for 2010/11**

The report of the Interim Head of Legal and Constitutional Services and Monitoring Officer was submitted:

(see annexed)

The Interim Head of Legal and Constitutional Services and Monitoring Officer (Mr. T. Cox) presented the report and answered questions raised by the Committee arising from the report.

Resolved

That the content of the report be noted.

387/11 **Timetable of standards items for Standards Committee agenda 2011/12**

The report of the Interim Head of Legal and Constitutional Services and Monitoring Officer was submitted:

(see annexed)

The Interim Head of Legal and Constitutional Services and Monitoring Officer (Mr. T. Cox) presented the report and answered questions raised by the Committee arising from the report.

Resolved

- (1) That the content of the report be noted.
- (2) That the timetable of agenda items to be submitted during the municipal year 2011/12 be agreed.

388/11 Timetable of meeting dates for local assessment of complaints 2011/12

The report of the Interim Head of Legal and Constitutional Services and Monitoring Officer was submitted:

(see annexed)

The Interim Head of Legal and Constitutional Services and Monitoring Officer (Mr. T. Cox) presented the report and answered questions raised by the Committee arising from the report.

Resolved

- (1) That the content of the report be noted.
- (2) That the timetable of meetings for local assessment of complaints 2011/12 be agreed.

389/11 Training for members 2011/12

The report of the Interim Head of Legal and Constitutional Services and Monitoring Officer was submitted:

(see annexed)

The Constitutional Services Manager (Mr. J. Garner) presented the report and answered questions raised by the Committee arising from the report.

Resolved

- (1) That the content of the report be noted.
- (2) That the Committee give consideration to further training which can be included in the training programme for 2011/12.

390/11 **Localism Bill – presentation**

The Interim Head of Legal and Constitutional Services and Monitoring Officer, Mr. T. Cox gave a brief verbal presentation on the Localism Bill which concentrated on local standards as well as an overview of the main provisions of the proposed legislation. Mr. Cox advised that the Localism Bill should receive Royal Assent in November 2011 and be implemented April 2012.

Resolved

That the presentation be noted.

The meeting terminated at 7.02 p.m.

Chairman:

Date: