

**Member Support & Governance  
Committee Services  
County Hall Chelmsford CM1 1LX**

**Telephone 08457 430430  
Fax 01245 280180**

## **Standards Committee**

**Date:** Thursday 24 September 2009  
**Time:** 12:15 p.m.  
**Venue:** Committee Room 5

### **Officer Support to this Committee**

**Governance Officer:** Antoinette Mortley  
**Telephone:** 01245 430565  
**Email:** antoinette.mortley@essex.gov.uk

## **Agenda**

This meeting is open to the public and the press. This agenda is also available on the Essex County Council website, [www.essex.gov.uk](http://www.essex.gov.uk), in the 'Online services' box click on 'Council decisions & meetings'.

If you have a need for documents in the following formats, large print, Braille, on disk or in alternative languages and easy read please contact the Committee Officer before the meeting takes place.

If you have specific access requirements such as access to induction loops, a signer, level access or information in Braille please inform the Committee Officer before the meeting takes place. For any further information contact the Committee Officer.

**Part I**  
(Business to be taken in public)

**1. Membership of the Committee**

Following the recent County Council elections the County Councillors appointed to this Committee are as follows:

Councillors M Fisher, E M Hart (Ex Officio), M Mackrory, J W Pike, C Pond, D Robinson, K Twitchen, R Walters and M J Webster.

**2. Apologies**

The Committee Officer to report the receipt (if any).

**3. Declarations of Interest**

To note any Declarations of Interest made by Members of the Committee.

**4. Minutes**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on [11 May 2009](#).

**5. Matters arising**

To note any matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

**6. Chairman's Report**

To receive an oral report by the Chairman.

**7. New Standards Committee Regulations**

To consider report [SC/010/09](#) by the [Deputy County Solicitor](#).

**8. Bulletins – The Standards Board for England – 44: June and 45: August issues**

To consider the [attached publications](#).

**9. Update on Complaints**

To receive an oral report by the Deputy County Solicitor.

**10. References from the Referral Sub-Committee**

The referral Sub-Committee has asked that the Committee consider the following matters:

how anonymous complaints are dealt with in the future;

whether further guidance and clarity within the County Council's Code of Conduct around the issue of hospitality is required.

**11. Induction for new Members**

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman to report back on the induction sessions on standards held for County Councillors on Fridays, 17 July and 18 September.

**12. Councillor Code of Conduct**

To note the contents of the attached [Press Release](#).

**13. Assessing the Impact and effectiveness of the Ethical Framework in Local Government in England**

To note the contents of the attached [Executive Summary](#) of the First Interim Report to the Standards Board for England.

**14. The Changing Role of the Standards Board for England**

To note the contents of the attached [Corporate Plan](#) 2009 - 2012.

**15. Forward Look**

To consider ([SC/011/09](#)) the Forward Plan of business.

**16. Date and Time of Future Meeting(s)**

To agree date(s) and time(s) of future meeting(s).

**17. Urgent Part I Business**

To consider any matter which, in the opinion of the Chairman, should be considered in public by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency.

**18. Exclusion of the Public**

To consider whether the public (including the press) should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of an agenda item on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as specified in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (exclusion is recommended for the items set out in Part II below).

## **Part II**

(Business to be taken in private)

### **19. Request for the lifting of Political Restriction**

To consider report SC/012/09 by the Deputy County Solicitor.  
(Paragraph 1 information relating to an individual)

### **20. Urgent Part II Business**

To consider any matter which, in the opinion of the Chairman, should be considered in private by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency.