

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE HEARINGS SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL AND ESSEX FIRE AUTHORITY JOINT STANDARDS COMMITTEE HELD AT COUNTY HALL, CHELMSFORD, ON 12 FEBRUARY 2016 AT 14.00

Membership present:

Councillor T Cutmore (Chairman)
Councillor S Barker
Councillor A Bayley
Councillor T Higgins
Councillor M McEwen

The following officers were present:

Andy Gribben	Clerk to the Committee
Kim Mayo	Principal Lawyer
Paul Turner	Deputy Monitoring Officer (he withdrew from the meeting during the Sub-Committee's deliberations)

Cllr Derrick Louis was also present and withdrew from the meeting during the Sub-Committee's deliberations.

1. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

2. Exclusion of the Public (Part 1)

It was moved by Councillor S Barker and seconded by Councillor T Higgins and by unanimous consent of the committee it was

Resolved:

That the public and the press should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the agenda item on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as specified in paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Members also determined that the public interest in maintaining the exemption (and discussing the matter in private) outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

1. Assessment of alleged breaches of the ECC Code of Conduct for Members (Part 2)

(Exempt under paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972)

The Sub-Committee considered a report and appendices by the Deputy Monitoring Officer that set out four issues of potential non-compliance with the Essex County Council Code of Conduct for Members.

Resolved:

- (1) That Cllr Derrick Louis was in breach of the Code of Member Conduct by failing to register contracts between Essex County Council and Provide CIC (a company of which Cllr Louis was a director) and that a recommendation be made to the Leader of the Council that Cllr Louis should not be eligible to be appointed to the Cabinet for a period of three months. be advised of the Hearings Sub-Committee's decisions.
- (2) That a notice of decision be published on the Essex County Council website as required by the Sub-Committee's Hearings Procedure.

Chairman