

## SOUTH RIBBLE BPRPOUGH COUNCIL

### Standards Committee

**Meeting held at 4.30pm on Thursday 9 June 2011 at Cross Room, Civic Centre, West Paddock, Leyland PR25 1DH**

**Present:**

Mr R Atkinson (Independent Chairman) in the chair

Independent Member Mr J Holt

Borough Councillors Mr M A Green, Mr D J Harrison, Mr F Heyworth, Mrs J A Mort and Miss F A Walker

Parish Councillors Mrs M Gelder, Mrs E Houghton and Mr R Mitchell

**In Attendance:**

Maureen Wood (Director of Corporate Governance), David Whelan (Legal Services Manager) and Dave Lee (Democratic Services Officer)

**Public Attendance:** None

**Other Officers:** Chief Executive

**Other Members:** None

Minute No.	Description/Resolution
1	<p><b>Apologies for Absence</b></p> <p>Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Otter and Independent Member Mr Ellison.</p>
2	<p><b>Declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>
3	<p><b>Minutes of the Last Meeting</b></p> <p>RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 3 March 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed by the chairman.</p> <p>(The Director of Corporate Governance informed the meeting that there was very little additional information to report upon the future of the Standards regime since the last meeting. The Director of Corporate Governance added that the committee would be kept informed of any new developments of the Localism Bill and the proposed changes to the Standards regime.)</p>

4	<p><b>Draft Annual Report on Ethical Standards for 2010/11</b></p> <p>The Legal Services Manager presented the draft report which, once approved by the committee, would be presented to full Council.</p> <p>The report outlined the proactive role of the committee in raising the profile of the Standards agenda throughout the council. Members continued to take their duties seriously under the Members' Code of Conduct. This had resulted in far fewer complaints against members this year than in the previous 12 months.</p> <p>Until the Coalition Government's proposals for Standards (as outlined in the Localism Bill) became law the committee would continue to function in exactly the same way as it had done over the last couple of years.</p> <p>The Legal Services Manager added that it looked likely that the new Standards regime would not come into force before Spring 2012.</p> <p>Members commended the clarity and readability of the report.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> that the draft report be approved, without change, for presentation to full Council on the 20 July 2011.</p>
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.....Chairman

The meeting finished at 4.47pm