

## STANDARDS COMMITTEE

*At a meeting of the Standards Committee Wednesday, 11 November 2009 Committee Room 1, Runcorn Town Hall*

Present: Mr B. Badrock (Chairman), T. Luxton (Vice Chairman), Parish Councillors Crawford, D. Felix, Mr R. Garner and Councillors Parker and Redhead

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Balmer and Wharton

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: M. Reaney and G. Ferguson

Also in attendance: None

### ITEMS DEALT WITH UNDER DUTIES EXERCISABLE BY THE COMMITTEE

#### STC14 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2009, having been printed and circulated, were signed as a correct record. The Committee thanked officers for including a copy of the minutes as part of the agenda.

#### STC15 ASSESSMENT MADE CLEAR - TRAINING DVD

The Committee watched the new training DVD issued by the Standards Board for England entitled "Assessment made clear", to help Standards Committee members assess complaints about elected or co-opted members.

RESOLVED: That the DVD be made available to those Members not present.

#### STC16 STANDARDS FOR ENGLAND ROUND UP

The Committee received a report of the Strategic Director, Corporate and Policy which brought Members up to date on the latest news from the Standards Board. Since the last meeting of the Committee the Standards Board had released Bulletin 45 which was appended to the report for

*Action*

Operational  
Director Legal,  
Organisational  
Development and  
Human Resource

information.

It was noted that the revised Code of Conduct for Members would be ready in late Autumn 2009. A further report on the revised Code of Conduct for Members would be brought to the Committee in due course.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

#### STC17 DRAFT ACTION LIST

The Committee's Action List was attached for consideration and amendment as necessary. It was agreed that item 2 Develop mind mapping sessions be deleted from the list.

RESOLVED: That Item 2 Develop mind mapping sessions be deleted from the list.

#### STC18 STANDARDS FOR ENGLAND ANNUAL ASSEMBLY - VERBAL REPORT

The Committee considered a verbal report of the Operational Director –legal, Organisational Development and Human Resource regarding the Standards Board for England Annual Assembly, which had been attended by the Councillor Wharton, the Operational Director Legal, Organisational Development and Human Resources and Mr Garner in his capacity of Independent Member of Cheshire Fire Authority's Standards Committee.

It was reported that those attending the assembly had attended sessions on investigating complaints, local assessment, other action, and predetermination and bias. The future of the Standard Board for England was also discussed.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

*Meeting ended at 4.05 p.m.*