

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the Standards Committee Wednesday, 1 February 2017 in The Board Room - Municipal Building, Widnes

Present: Councillors P. Lloyd Jones (Chair), M. Bradshaw, Cole, Howard, C. Loftus, J. Lowe, Wainwright, Wharton, Mr A. Luxton (Co-optee) and Mr S.Cluff (Parish Council Co-optee), Professor D. Norman (Independent Person), Mr R. Radley (Independent Person)

Apologies for Absence: Mrs D. Howard (Independent Person)
Revd Canon D.Felix (Parish Council Co-optee), Councillor McDermott

Absence declared on Council business: None

Officers present: M. Reaney and A. Scott

Also in attendance: None

ITEMS DEALT WITH UNDER DUTIES EXERCISABLE BY THE COMMITTEE

STC1 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 February 2016, having been circulated, were signed as a correct record.

STC2 STANDARDS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

The Committee considered a report of the Operational Director, Legal and Democratic Services/Monitoring Officer, which summarised the work of the Committee in the last Municipal Year.

At the meeting in February 2016, Members had considered the Annual Report, which had noted an update on the Standards regime. There had been an update on issues that had arisen in other parts of the country, which provided an insight into the nature of matters raised and how they were dealt with elsewhere.

In addition, Members also received a report on the Council's Whistleblowing Policy, in so far as it related to the work of the Standards Committee. It was noted that the Policy was kept under review as regards best practice, as

Action

part of the annual review of the Council's Constitution.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted and referred to Council for information.

Operational
Director, Legal
and Democratic
Services/
Monitoring Officer

STC3 STANDARDS COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Operational Director, Legal and Democratic Services/Monitoring Officer provided the Committee with an update on issues which had arisen in other parts of the country, which provided an insight into the kind of issues faced and the manner in which they had proceeded.

Details on recent cases were given from the following locations:-

- Coventry;
- Sandwell (Birmingham);
- Leek (Staffordshire);
- Bury;
- Sadleworth (Greater Manchester); and
- Croydon.

A verbal update was given on local matters that had been considered since the last meeting and on the work in relation to a Code of Conduct for the Liverpool City Region (LCR) Combined Authority (CA), which was in preparation as part of the revision of the LCR CA Constitution.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

Meeting ended at 2.54 p.m.