

AT A MEETING of the STANDARDS COMMITTEE of HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL held at The Castle, Winchester on 22 June 2010.

PRESENT:

Independent Chairman:

p Mr. G. Ellis

Councillors:

p B. Dash

p A. Gibson

p G. Hockley

p A. Rice

p J. West

p S. Woodward

Independent Members:-

p Mrs B. North

17. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr M. C. James
(Independent Chairman)

18. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

19. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Committee held on 9 February 2010 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

(a) Matters arising

Minute 14 - Recruitment of Independent Members to Standards Committee and to the Independent Remuneration Panel

Committee Members welcomed Mrs Barbara North, newly appointed independent member, to her first meeting of the Standards Committee.

20. ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL

The Committee considered the report of the Monitoring Officer (Item 5 in the Minute Book).

The Committee noted that the recently formed government had indicated an intention to introduce provisions in the Decentralisation and Localism Bill to 'abolish the Standards Board regime' (albeit without confirming what might replace it). Future training sessions would therefore need to

reflect any new guidance that was issued and the 'standards' regime in place at that time.

The Committee also noted that the County Council's business management processes for items being submitted to formal meetings of the County Council were such that the Committee's report may go to a meeting later than 15 July 2010.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) The Chairman of the Standards Committee be requested to submit an annual report to the County Council summarising the Standards Committee's activities during the 2009/10 municipal year and;
- (ii) The Chairman of the Standards Committee be requested to attend the County Council meeting at which the annual report is considered to present the report and to respond to any questions from Members.

21. **STANDARDS COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

The Committee considered the report of the Monitoring Officer (Item 6 in the Minute Book).

The Deputy Monitoring Officer advised that in the light of recent government announcements the proposed training on local determination of complaints due to be held in July 2010 would be postponed. The Committee also noted that the 'Annual Assembly of Standards Committees' conference due to be held in Birmingham on 18 and 19 October 2010 had been cancelled due to the current uncertainty about any future local standards arrangements. Reports to the Standards Committee in respect of these issues would therefore not come forward as indicated.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee's proposed work programme (as amended) be noted.