

# Standards Committee

A meeting of the Standards Committee was held on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2005.

**Present:** Mr F.W. Hayes (Independent Chairman), Councillor Fletcher and Lupton (vice Councillor Mrs Beaumont); Rev Dr. P.D. Ashdown, (Independent Member); Mr. T. Bowman (Parish Representative).

**Officers:** D.E. Bond, Miss F Shayler (LD)

**Apologies for absence** were submitted on behalf of Councillors Baker, Mrs Beaumont, Craggs and Teasdale; Mr J. McBride, Mr L W Hedley (Parish Representatives).

## 1059 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2004 were signed by the chairman as a correct record.

## 1060 A code for the Future

Members views were requested on the Standards Board's consultation in relation to the review of the Members' Code of Conduct.

A copy of the Standards Board's letter and full consultation paper were provided for members information together with the specific questions raised by the consultation paper to which the Committee was requested to respond.

The Committee considered the areas of the Code that would benefit from change and requested that their comments and views in relation to each of the specific questions be submitted. The deadline for responses was 17 June 2005. The Committees views and comments would be considered by Cabinet on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2005 with a view to a Council response being formulated and submitted by the deadline.

RESOLVED that the Committee's views and comments and views be submitted to Cabinet on 7<sup>th</sup> April to enable a Council response to be formulated prior to 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2005.

## 1061 Discussion Items – Various

Members were provided with the following items for their information:-

1. Freedom of Information – News Release
2. Government's Response to the Department for Constitutional Affairs Select Committee Report – Freedom of Information Act 2000 Progress towards implementation.
3. Local Government Ombudsman – Special Report : Neighbour Nuisance and Anti Social Behaviour
4. Local Government Ombudsman – Annual Letters 2004/05

RESOLVED that the above information items be noted