



STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Monday, 18th February, 2019

at 6.30 pm

Room 102, Hackney Town Hall, Mare Street,
London E8 1EA

Committee Membership:

Deputy Mayor Anntoinette Bramble (Chair)
Councillor Humaira Garasia
Councillor Katie Hanson
Councillor Anna Lynch
Councillor Sem Moema
Councillor Jessica Webb (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Caroline Woodley

Co-opted Members:

Adedoja Labinjo
Onagete Louison

Tim Shields
Chief Executive

8 February 2019

Contact:
Clifford Hart
Governance Services Officer
Tel: 020 8356 3597
Email: Clifford.hart@Hackney.gov.uk

The press and public are welcome to attend this meeting

AGENDA

Monday, 18th February, 2019

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item No	Title	Page No
1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
2	URGENT BUSINESS The Chair will consider the admission of any late items of Urgent Business. Late items of Urgent Business will be considered under the agenda item where they appear. New items of unrestricted urgent business will be dealt with under Item 12 below. New items of exempt urgent business will be dealt with at Item 15 below.	
3	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - Members to declare as appropriate	

	<p>A Member with a disclosable pecuniary interest or a prejudicial interest in a matter who attends a meeting of the authority at which the matter is considered:</p> <p>(i) must disclose the interest at the start of the meeting or when the interest becomes apparent, and (ii) may not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must withdraw from the meeting room.</p> <p>A Member who discloses at a meeting a disclosable pecuniary interest which is not registered in the Register of Members' Interests or the subject of a pending notification must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest within 28 days of the disclosure.</p> <p>Disclosable pecuniary interests, personal interests and prejudicial interests are defined at Paragraphs 8.1-15.2 of Section Two of Part 5 of the Constitution and Appendix A of the Members' Code of Conduct.</p> <p>A Member with a disclosable pecuniary interest or a prejudicial interest in a matter who attends a meeting of the authority at which the matter is considered:</p> <p>(i) must disclose the interest at the start of the meeting or when the interest becomes apparent, and (ii) may not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must withdraw from the meeting room.</p> <p>A Member who discloses at a meeting a disclosable pecuniary interest which is not registered in the Register of Members' Interests or the subject of a pending notification must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest within 28 days of the disclosure.</p> <p>Disclosable pecuniary interests, personal interests and prejudicial interests are defined at Paragraphs 8.1-15.2 of Section Two of Part 5 of the Constitution and Appendix A of the Members' Code of Conduct.</p>	
4	DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS AND QUESTIONS	
5	UNRESTRICTED MINUTES OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE HELD ON 2 JULY 2018	1 - 6
6	<p>Annual Report on Compliance with Guidance on Members' Use of ICT</p> <p>This annual report provides the Standards Committee with an update on Members' use of the ICT services provided by the Council.</p>	7 - 14
7	<p>Review of the Members' Training and Development Programme</p> <p>This report provides an update with regards to the Members' Training & Development Programme the aim of which is to provide the necessary training and tools to members to enable them to reach their full potential in their various roles as councillors</p>	15 - 20

8	<p>REVIEW OF THE REGISTER OF MEMBERS' AND CO-OPTEEES' DECLARATION OF INTEREST FORM & REVIEW OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT</p> <p>This report updates the Standards Committee on the review of register of Members' and Co-optees' declaration of interest form and also informs Members with regard to the Code of Conduct.</p>	21 - 24
9	<p>Review of the Member complaints process and form/toolkit</p> <p>This report advises the Standards Committee of the review of the Council's arrangements currently in place to investigate allegations made against Members under the Members' Code of Conduct under Section 28 of the Localism Act 2011.</p>	25 - 54
10	<p>Verbal Review of the number of complaints about Members</p> <p>To give a brief verbal update to the Standards Committee of the number of complaints about Members since the commencement of the Municipal Year 2018/19 to date.</p>	
11	<p>Verbal update on the outcome of the Committee of Standards in Public Life Consultation</p> <p>To verbally advise the Standards Committee of the Government's Committee on Standards in Public Life's recently published report and recommendations on ethical standards in local government, following a year-long review and wide consultation.</p>	
12	<p>TO CONSIDER ANY UNRESTRICTED ITEMS OF BUSINESS THE CHAIR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT</p>	
13	<p>DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS</p> <p>There are no other scheduled meetings of Standards Committee in the current Municipal Year 2018/19.</p> <p>The provisional 2019/20 meetings of the Committee are scheduled to take place on:</p> <p>1 July 2019 13 February 2020</p>	
14	<p>EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS</p>	

	<p><u>Note from the Governance Services Manager</u></p> <p>Item 15 allows for the consideration of exempt information.</p> <p>In the event that there are any urgent items of exempt business the Chair shall move the following resolution:</p> <p>THAT the press and public be excluded from the proceedings of the Standards Committee during consideration of Exempt item 15 on the agenda on the grounds that it is likely, in the view of the nature of the business to be transacted, that were members of the public to be present, there would be disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as amended.</p>	
<p>15</p>	<p>TO CONSIDER ANY EXEMPT ITEMS OF BUSINESS THE CHAIR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT</p>	

Access and Information

Location

Hackney Town Hall is on Mare Street, bordered by Wilton Way and Reading Lane, almost directly opposite Hackney Picturehouse

Trains – Hackney Central Station (London Overground) – Turn right on leaving the station, turn right again at the traffic lights into Mare Street, walk 200 metres and look for the Hackney Town Hall, almost next to The Empire immediately after Wilton Way.

Buses 30, 48, 55, 106, 236, 254, 277, 394, D6 and W15.

Facilities

There are public toilets available, with wheelchair access, on the ground floor of the Town Hall. Induction loop facilities are available in the Assembly Halls, rooms 101, 102 & 103 and the Council Chamber. Access for people with mobility difficulties can be obtained through the ramp on the side to the main Town Hall entrance.

Copies of the Agenda

The Hackney website contains a full database of meeting agendas, reports and minutes. Log on at: www.hackney.gov.uk

Paper copies are also available from the Governance Services Officers whose contact details are shown on page 1 of the agenda.

Council & Democracy- www.hackney.gov.uk

The Council & Democracy section of the Hackney Council website contains details about the democratic process at Hackney, including:

- [Mayor of Hackney](#)
- [Your Councillors](#)
- [Cabinet](#)
- [Speaker](#)
- [MPs, MEPs and GLA](#)
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RIGHTS OF PRESS AND PUBLIC TO REPORT ON MEETINGS

Where a meeting of the Council and its committees are open to the public, the press and public are welcome to report on meetings of the Council and its committees, through any audio, visual or written methods and may use digital and social media providing they do not disturb the conduct of the meeting and providing that the person reporting or providing the commentary is present at the meeting.

Those wishing to film, photograph or audio record a meeting are asked to notify the Council's Monitoring Officer by noon on the day of the meeting, if possible, or any time prior to the start of the meeting or notify the Chair at the start of the meeting.

The Monitoring Officer, or the Chair of the meeting, may designate a set area from which all recording must take place at a meeting.

The Council will endeavour to provide reasonable space and seating to view, hear and record the meeting. If those intending to record a meeting require any other reasonable facilities, notice should be given to the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting and will only be provided if practicable to do so.

The Chair shall have discretion to regulate the behaviour of all those present recording a meeting in the interests of the efficient conduct of the meeting. Anyone acting in a disruptive manner may be required by the Chair to cease recording or may be excluded from the meeting. Disruptive behaviour may include: moving from any designated recording area; causing excessive noise; intrusive lighting; interrupting the meeting; or filming members of the public who have asked not to be filmed.

All those visually recording a meeting are requested to only focus on recording councillors, officers and the public who are directly involved in the conduct of the meeting. The Chair of the meeting will ask any members of the public present if they have objections to being visually recorded. Those visually recording a meeting are asked to respect the wishes of those who do not wish to be filmed or photographed. Failure by someone recording a meeting to respect the wishes of those who do not wish to be filmed and photographed may result in the Chair instructing them to cease recording or in their exclusion from the meeting.

If a meeting passes a motion to exclude the press and public then in order to consider confidential or exempt information, all recording must cease and all recording equipment must be removed from the meeting room. The press and public are not permitted to use any means which might enable them to see or hear the proceedings whilst they are excluded from a meeting and confidential or exempt information is under consideration.

Providing oral commentary during a meeting is not permitted.

ADVICE TO MEMBERS ON DECLARING INTERESTS

Hackney Council's Code of Conduct applies to **all** Members of the Council, the Mayor and co-opted Members.

This note is intended to provide general guidance for Members on declaring interests. However, you may need to obtain specific advice on whether you have an interest in a particular matter. If you need advice, you can contact:

- The Director of Legal & Governance;
- The Legal Adviser to the committee; or
- Governance Services.

If at all possible, you should try to identify any potential interest you may have before the meeting so that you and the person you ask for advice can fully consider all the circumstances before reaching a conclusion on what action you should take.

1. Do you have a disclosable pecuniary interest in any matter on the agenda or which is being considered at the meeting?

You will have a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter if it:

- relates to an interest that you have already registered in Parts A and C of the Register of Pecuniary Interests of you or your spouse/civil partner, or anyone living with you as if they were your spouse/civil partner;
- relates to an interest that should be registered in Parts A and C of the Register of Pecuniary Interests of your spouse/civil partner, or anyone living with you as if they were your spouse/civil partner, but you have not yet done so; or
- affects your well-being or financial position or that of your spouse/civil partner, or anyone living with you as if they were your spouse/civil partner.

2. If you have a disclosable pecuniary interest in an item on the agenda you must:

- Declare the existence and nature of the interest (in relation to the relevant agenda item) as soon as it becomes apparent to you (subject to the rules regarding sensitive interests).
- You must leave the room when the item in which you have an interest is being discussed. You cannot stay in the meeting room or public gallery whilst discussion of the item takes place and you cannot vote on the matter. In addition, you must not seek to improperly influence the decision.
- If you have, however, obtained dispensation from the Monitoring Officer or Standards Committee you may remain in the room and participate in the meeting. If dispensation has been granted it will stipulate the extent of your involvement, such as whether you can only be present to make representations, provide evidence or whether you are able to fully participate and vote on the matter in which you have a pecuniary interest.

3. Do you have any other non-pecuniary interest on any matter on the agenda which is being considered at the meeting?

You will have 'other non-pecuniary interest' in a matter if:

- i. It relates to an external body that you have been appointed to as a Member or in another capacity; or
- ii. It relates to an organisation or individual which you have actively engaged in supporting.

4. If you have other non-pecuniary interest in an item on the agenda you must:

- i. Declare the existence and nature of the interest (in relation to the relevant agenda item) as soon as it becomes apparent to you.
- ii. You may remain in the room, participate in any discussion or vote provided that contractual, financial, consent, permission or licence matters are not under consideration relating to the item in which you have an interest.
- iii. If you have an interest in a contractual, financial, consent, permission or licence matter under consideration, you must leave the room unless you have obtained a dispensation from the Monitoring Officer or Standards Committee. You cannot stay in the room or public gallery whilst discussion of the item takes place and you cannot vote on the matter. In addition, you must not seek to improperly influence the decision. Where members of the public are allowed to make representations, or to give evidence or answer questions about the matter you may, with the permission of the meeting, speak on a matter then leave the room. Once you have finished making your representation, you must leave the room whilst the matter is being discussed.
- iv. If you have been granted dispensation, in accordance with the Council's dispensation procedure you may remain in the room. If dispensation has been granted it will stipulate the extent of your involvement, such as whether you can only be present to make representations, provide evidence or whether you are able to fully participate and vote on the matter in which you have a non pecuniary interest.

Further Information

Advice can be obtained from Suki Binjal, Director of Legal & Governance, Services, on 020 8356 6237 or email suki.binjal@hackney.gov.uk



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