



London Borough of Hackney – Decisions taken by the Standards Committee on Monday, 18 February 2019

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
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Items considered in public

1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Hanson and Woodley. NOTED
1	URGENT BUSINESS	There were no items of urgent business. NOTED
2	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - Members to declare as appropriate	There were no declarations of interests. NOTED
3	DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS AND QUESTIONS	There were no deputations, petitions or questions. NOTED
4	UNRESTRICTED MINUTES OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE HELD ON 2 JULY 2018	The Clerk to the Committee – Mr Hart advised of an amendment to the attendance details of the meeting held on 2 July 2018 to include the attendance of the Independent Person – Mr Stopes Roe. There being no other amendments on a MOTION by the Chair it was: RESOLVED That the unrestricted minutes of the Standards Committee held on 2 July 2018 be confirmed as accurate record of the proceedings subject to the inclusion of Mr Stopes-Roe – Independent Person, in the attendance record.

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5	Annual Report on Compliance with Guidance on Members' Use of ICT	<p>RESOLVED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. That the update on Members' use of ICT as detailed in section 6 of the report be noted; ii. that the follow up work taking place for a small number of Members to ensure that standard access and security arrangements were in place as referred to in paragraphs 6.5 and 6.6 of the report be noted; iii. that the proposed direction for Data Protection guidance and Members' ICT provision as referred to in paragraphs 7 and 8 of the report be noted; and iv. that the comments expressed by Members in relation to the timing and location of the roll of proposed training be noted and officers be asked to take account of this during the scheduling of the roll out.
6	Review of the Members' Training and Development Programme	<p>RESOLVED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. That the update with regards to the Council's member training and development programme be noted; and ii. That the comments and concerns of members expressed during discussion be noted and taken account of particularly in relation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear guidance on mandatory and non mandatory training • Refresher courses on annual basis i.e code of conduct, and declarations/register of interests • training courses that could be offered on a collective, individual or online basis • An ability to record an absence where a date was offered and a member was unable to attend through a previously arranged other commitment • The timing of training courses and review of commence time with possible training sessions in a morning or lunch time

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible 1:1 sessions and walk in mornings or evenings • Possibly other locations other than the Town Hall • The concerns of co-opted members of the lack of guidance and training, and the need for better understanding and invitation to co-opted members for both mandatory/non mandatory training sessions in future
7	REVIEW OF THE REGISTER OF MEMBERS' AND CO-OPTEEES' DECLARATION OF INTEREST FORM & REVIEW OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT	<p>RESOLVED</p> <p>i. That the report be noted; and</p> <p>ii. That a quarterly email will be sent from member services to remind members to review and update their form and advise Governance services accordingly.</p>
8	Review of the Member complaints process and form/toolkit	<p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That the updated complaints procedure and complaints form attached as appendices 1-3 to this report be noted and agreed, and that a revised flow chart be circulated to the Committee for information including boxes showing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • outcomes as regards to findings of investigation • whether the complaint findings warrant consideration by a Review Committee

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • possible outcomes/decision of the Review Committee • Informing the subject member and advertising/reporting of the decision to Full Council
9	Verbal Review of the number of complaints about Members	<p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That the verbal update regarding the number of complaints received against members for the Municipal Year commencing May 2018 to date be noted.</p>
10	Verbal update on the outcome of the Committee of Standards in Public Life Consultation	<p>RESOLVED</p> <p>i. That the verbal update with regard to 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, be noted; and</p> <p>ii. that that a further report be brought to the Standards Committee in July 2019 detailing a full evaluation of the findings and recommendations, and the implications for the LB Hackney and covering the main headline issues arising from the review as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a new power for local authorities to suspend councillors without allowances for up to six months • revised rules on declaring interests, gifts and hospitality • local authorities retain ownership of their own Codes of Conduct • a right of appeal for suspended councillors to the Local Government Ombudsman • a strengthened role for the Independent Person • greater transparency about the number and nature of Code complaints.

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11	TO CONSIDER ANY UNRESTRICTED ITEMS OF BUSINESS THE CHAIR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT	There were no items of urgent business. NOTED
12	DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS	NOTED that there were no other scheduled meetings of Standards Committee in the current Municipal Year 2018/19, and that the provisional 2019/20 meetings of the Standards Committee were scheduled to take place on: 1 July 2019 13 February 2020
13	EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS	There were no exempt matters to be considered. NOTED
14	TO CONSIDER ANY EXEMPT ITEMS OF BUSINESS THE CHAIR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT	Nil items