



# STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Thursday, 13th February, 2020

at 6.30 pm

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

**Committee Membership:**

Deputy Mayor Anntoinette Bramble (Chair)  
Councillor Jessica Webb (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor Soraya Adejare  
Councillor Humaira Garasia  
Councillor Katie Hanson  
Councillor Anna Lynch  
Councillor Sem Moema  
Councillor Carole Williams

**Co-opted Members**

Nicola Hanns  
Onagete Louison  
Adedoja Labinjo  
Aoife Scannell

**Independent Person – Jonathan Stopes-Roe**

Tim Shields  
Chief Executive

5 February 2020

**Contact:**  
Clifford Hart  
Governance Services  
Tel: 020 8356 3597  
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The press and public are welcome to attend this meeting

# AGENDA

## Thursday, 13th February, 2020

### ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item No	Title	Page No
1	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>	
2	<p><b>Welcome by the Chair of the Standards Committee to the newly appointed Co-opted Members</b></p> <p>The Chair will welcome the two newly appointed Co-opted Members of Standards Committee – Nicola Hanns &amp; Aoife Scannell.</p>	
3	<p><b>Urgent Business</b></p> <p>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 10 below. New items of exempt urgent business will be dealt with under Item 14 below.</p>	
4	<p><b>Declarations of Interest - Members to declare as appropriate</b></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</p> <p>(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>	
5	<b>Deputations/Petitions/Questions</b>	
6	<b>To Confirm the Unrestricted Minutes of The Standards Committee held on 16 September 2019, and 13 January 2020 (Special)</b>	1 - 12
7	<b>Review of recommendations relating to Best Practice arising the Committee on Standards in Public Life on the subject of ethical standards in Local Government</b>	13 - 28

	<p>This report advises Standards Committee of the recent comparison of the Council's current Ethical Standards arrangements in place to identify whether they conform to the fifteen best practice recommendations identified by the CSPL report, arising from a recommendation of the Standards Committee of 16 September 2019.</p>	
<b>8</b>	<p><b>Review of the current Members Declarations of Interests Form</b></p> <p>This report provides Standards Committee with an update of the review of the Members Declaration of Interests form arising from a recommendation of the Standards Committee of 16 September 2019.</p>	29 - 56
<b>9</b>	<p><b>Verbal Review of the number of complaints about Members</b></p>	
<b>10</b>	<p><b>Any other unrestricted business the Chair considers to be urgent</b></p> <p>To consider any items of unrestricted urgent business.</p>	
<b>11</b>	<p><b>DATES AND TIMES OF MEETINGS OF STANDARDS COMMITTEE - 2019/20</b></p> <p>There are no other scheduled meetings of Standards Committee in the current Municipal Year 2019/20.</p> <p>The provisional 2020/21 meetings of the Committee are scheduled to take place on:</p> <p>14 July 2020 17 February 2021</p>	
<b>12</b>	<p><b>EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS</b></p> <p><u>Note from the Governance Services Manager</u></p> <p>In respect of the following exempt item of business to be considered 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 12 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 paragraph 1 of Part 1 Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as amended.</p>	
<b>13</b>	<p><b>To Confirm the exempt Minutes of The Standards Committee held on 13 January 2020</b></p>	57 - 60
<b>14</b>	<p><b>Any other exempt business the Chair considers to be urgent</b></p> <p>To consider any items of exempt urgent business.</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

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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](http://www.hackney.gov.uk)

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

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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:

- i. 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;
- ii. 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
- iii. 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:

- i. 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).
- ii. 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.
- iii. 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, on 020 8356 6237 or email [suki.binjal@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:suki.binjal@hackney.gov.uk)



**FS 566728**





## UNRESTRICTED MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

**MONDAY, 16TH SEPTEMBER, 2019**

**Councillors Present:** Deputy Mayor Anntoinette Bramble in the Chair

Cllr Jessica Webb (Vice-Chair),  
Cllr Humaira Garasia, Cllr Katie Hanson,  
Cllr Anna Lynch and Cllr Carole Williams

**Co optees Present** Onagete Louison

**Independent Person:** Mr Jonathan Stopes-Roe

**Officers in Attendance:** Suki Binjul – Director of Legal & Governance  
Dawn Carter-McDonald – Head of Legal & Governance  
Clifford Hart – Clerk to Standards Committee

### **1 Confirmation of the appointment of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Standards Committee for the Municipal Year 2019/20**

The Governance Officer present – Mr Hart sought confirmation to the appointment of the Chair – Councillor Bramble, and Vice-Chair – Councillor Webb of Standards Committee for the Municipal Year 2019/20 as advised at Annual Council in May 2019.

The Committee resolved to agree the appointments nemine contradicente.

**NOTED**

### **2 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Adejare, and Moema, and from Co-opted Member Onagete Louison, and for lateness from Councillor Williams.

**NOTED**

### **3 Urgent Business**

There were no items of urgent business.

**NOTED**

### **4 Declarations of Interest - Members to declare as appropriate**

There were no declarations of interest.

**NOTED**

**5 Deputations/Petitions/Questions**

There were no deputations, petitions, or questions.

**NOTED**

**6 To Confirm the Unrestricted Minutes of The Standards Committee held on 18 February 2019**

**RESOLVED**

That the unrestricted minutes of the Standards Committee held on 18 February be confirmed as an accurate record of the proceedings.

**7 Standards Committee Terms of Reference**

There being no questions or points of clarification it was :

**RESOLVED**

That the terms of reference of the Standards Committee be noted.

**8 Standards Committee Work Programme 2019/20**

There being no questions or points of clarification it was :

**RESOLVED**

That approval be given to the draft work programme for 2019/20 as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

**9 Draft Standards Committee Annual Report 2018/19**

The Chair asked if there were any comments or clarifications as to the report's content.

Councillor Hanson commented that it was an informative annual report, and in giving approval to its content it was a positive in knowing that there had been no referrals to Standards Committee with regard breaches of the members code.

There being no questions or points of clarification, on a MOTION by the Chair it was :

**RESOLVED**

**That the Standards Committee Annual Report for 2018/19, as attached at Appendix 1 to the report be endorsed, for submission to Full Council to consider on 30 October 2019.**

**10 Request for Members' Dispensation in respect of membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme**

The Chair asked for a brief introduction of the report.

The Director of Legal & Governance – Ms Binjal informed the meeting that as part of the formal consideration of business of the various bodies of the Council, the matter of the Local Government Pension scheme (LGPS) was periodically considered/discussed e.g at Full Council, Audit Committee, Pensions Committee, and the Pensions Board.

Ms Binjal commented that it had been noted that a number of elected members may be contributing in their elected member capacity to the London Borough of Hackney Pension Scheme, or were in receipt of a pension from the London Borough of Hackney (as a result of previously contributing to the scheme and had reached pensionable age). It was also the case that an elected Member may also currently be contributing to the LGPS at another Local Authority as an employee, or in receipt of a pension from another Local Authority where they were formerly an employee.

Ms Binjal further commented that in accordance with the Council's Members Code Conduct as detailed in Part 5 of the constitution, the declarations of interests' rules required a Member to declare as a disclosable non-pecuniary interest, any contribution to or being in receipt of an LGPS pension. It was also a requirement of each Member to declare such interests on their individual Register of Interests form (ROI). Consequently as the various bodies of the Council would require such declarations to be made each time pensions issues are discussed, it was felt that as the declaration had already been detailed in individual Members ROI's it was not necessary to then have to disclose such interests on each occasion and therefore it was appropriate to seek a Member wide dispensation to not have to make such declarations with immediate effect. The dispensation would remain in place until the first meeting of the Standards Committee or any committee which may be given the functions of the Standards Committee in May 2022.

Ms Binjal concluded that a dispensation to not have to declare membership of and contribution to or receipt of a pension from a LGPS (which was recorded on the Register of Interest Form published on the web), was such a dispensation that could be determined by the Standards Committee as advised by the herself as Monitoring Officer, and accordingly Standards Committee was being asked to grant a blanket dispensation for the term of office (until May 2022) for all Members that would be affected under the provision of the dispensation in accordance with rule 14.2 (e) of the constitution - Part 5 - Members Code of conduct.

The Chair thanked Ms Binjal for her succinct introduction. There being no questions from the Committee, on a **MOTION** by the Chair it was:

**RESOLVED**

- i. That approval be given to a dispensation for any member of the Council belonging to the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) either in a

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contributing, or in receipt capacity, for the LB Hackney, or any other Local Authority Pension Scheme, when they are in attendance at any Council meetings where matters pertaining to the Local Government Pension Scheme are being considered/discussed; and

- ii. That the dispensation remain in place until the first meeting of the Standards Committee or any committee which has the functions of the Standards Committee, following the commencement of the newly elected administration in May 2022.

## **11 Recruitment of Co-opted Members to Standards Committee 2019**

The Chair advised the Committee that the report before it was self explanatory and sought the Committee's approval to the recruitment process for the appointment of up to four co-opted members to fill the four existing co-opted member vacancies on the Standards Committee.

In terms of the process of interviews the Chair advised the Committee of the proposed composition of the interview panel, and the process for shortlisting, as detailed in the report. The Chair also advised that for the appointment of any successful candidate it was a requirement for these appointments to be recommended by Standards Committee to Full Council, whose statutory responsibility it was to confirm such appointments.

In response to clarification from Councillor Webb, the Chair advised that the process for the recruitment of co-opted members was similar to that previously embarked upon.

The Committee welcomed the proposals. Councillors Hanson, Lynch and Williams expressed an interest in taking part in the interview Panel.

There being no further points of clarification on a MOTION by the Chair it was:

### **RESOLVED**

- i. That approval be given to the recruitment process for the appointment of up to four current co-opted member vacancies to Standards Committee for a period of four years from their confirmed date of appointment;
- ii. That approval be given to the contents of the draft recruitment pack as detailed, as attached at Appendix 1 of the report, and to the process of recruitment as detailed in paragraph 6.3 of the report;
- iii. That Standards Committee agree that the Interview Panel to shortlist and interview candidates will be drawn from the Membership of the Standards Committee as follows, and to agree those members to be appointed:

**Chair of Standards Committee  
Two Members of Standards Committee  
One current co-opted Member (Advisory Capacity non-voting)  
Independent Person – Standards Committee (Advisory Capacity non-voting)**

**officers in attendance**

- iv. **That it be noted that a special Standards Committee will be convened in late November to mid December 2019 to endorse the recommendations of the Interview Panel regarding proposed appointments, and recommend to Full Council the endorsed appointments, at its meeting on 22 January 2020, for a term of four years.**

Clerks note – following on from the decision of 16 September 2019 Councillor Williams indicated that she was happy not to take part in the interviews as there would be sufficient voting members with the Chair and Cllrs Hanson & Lynch taking part.

**12 Local Government Ethical Standards - Report of the Committee on Standards in Public Life on the subject of ethical standards in local government**

The Chair advised the Committee that the Director of Legal & Governance – Ms Binjal would give an introduction to the report and also give a presentation to the Committee.

Ms Binjal informed the Committee that the report before them detailed the findings and recommendations from the Government's Committee on Standards in Public Life's (CSPL) review of ethical standards in public life. The review was commenced in January 2018, and following a nine/ten month consultation process, the findings of the review were assessed and recommendations on the outcome of the review were published in January 2019.

Ms Binjal further commented that following the publication of the main findings in January 2019, the Standards Committee, in February 2019 received an oral report from the Head of Legal & Governance, which highlighted the main headlines of the review. The report before members now gave a summary of the full 26 recommendations as published and gives a brief outline of how the proposed recommendations would have an effect on the Council's constitution and its current standards functions.

Ms Binjal, by the aid of a coloured presentation (tabled) took the Committee through the main findings of the review (a copy of which will be interleaved in the minutes).

In summary the presentation highlighted the main points of the findings as follows:

- the findings and recommendations from the Government's Committee on Standards in Public Life's (CSPL) review of ethical standards in public life.
- The vast majority of councillors and officers were committed to maintaining high ethical standards but that there were a small minority of councillors who engage in bullying or other disruptive behaviour. It also

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noted that a small number of Parish Councils give rise to a disproportionate number of complaints.

- The findings found that the operation of the existing mechanisms was identified as opaque in some cases and it suggested that greater openness as to how decisions were to be made at a local level would elicit greater public confidence in the ethical standards present in local authorities.
- Identified a number of risks in the sector including the current rules on conflicts of interest and gifts and hospitality and concludes that those were exasperated by the increasing complexity of local government.
- Support for the model of devolved self-regulation and the positive promotion of high ethical standards as opposed to a solely punitive approach. However it identified a need for appropriate mechanisms by which councils were able to address issues when they arose. In particular, it recommended that the power to suspend a councillor be re-introduced at a local level in order to enhance the effectiveness of local accountability. By way of balance it was suggested that the role of the Independent Person should be enhanced and a right of appeal for councillors should be introduced to ensure fairness and avoid malicious abuse of the complaints system. It also concluded that the current criminal sanctions relating to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests was disproportionate in principle and ineffective in practice, and should be abolished.
- Identifying the obligation on Monitoring Officers (MO) to be responsible for implementing the system and the promotion of high standards of ethical conduct within their councils.
- Conclusions of the findings found that in some instances fulfilling those obligations may prove challenging for the MO and in this should be addressed through the introduction of extended employment protection for the MO to ensure that they were able to act in the public interest and without fear or favour.
- In total 26 recommendations were proposed as set out in Appendix A of the report with the majority requiring primary legislation to bring in to effect. The report also sets out a list of what it described as 'best practice', as set out in Appendix B, which the CSPL proposed should be used as a benchmark for local authorities against which they might assess their local arrangements.

The Chair thanked Ms Binjal for her succinct introduction and presentation.

The Committee then undertook a discussion as regards the details of the presentation and the CSPL findings – the main points being:

- Comments regarding the issues of declarations of prejudicial and non prejudicial interests and there being conflicting guidance and confusion and any revisions and clearer guidance arising from the CSPL would be welcomed

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- Concerns that the existing LB Hackney register of gifts and hospitality and general declarations form is not particularly helpful or clear and members would welcome the opportunity to review and suggest a clearer summary of what should and should not be declared
- Concerns that members (especially newly elected but also long standing) could inadvertently fall in to the trap of not having declared an issue based on a misunderstanding of what was required by law to declare
- That whether it was necessary to actually make any formal comment on the recommendations (i.e. to MHCLG) in the form of a letter given that the Council was accepting the recommendations and would be addressing the findings in advance of the legislative process to statutorily implement once adopted.

In response to the comments and concerns raised Ms Binjal advised that she would initiate a task and finish group comprising of members and officers to look at the issues of declarations, and explanations of what was best practice and examples of what things should be recorded.

Councillors Hanson and Lynch indicated their willingness to take part in the group.

The Chair felt that given the comments in relation to a proposed letter of response as detailed in recommendation 2.3, that this proposal would be noted and not acted upon.

There being no further comments from the Committee, on a MOTION by the Chair it was:

**RESOLVED**

- i. That the Report from the Committee on Standards in Public Life (CSPL) on the subject of local government ethical standards which attached at Appendix 1 of the report be noted;**
- ii. that the recommendations of the CSPL attached at Appendix 2 of the report and the identified 'best practice' which attached at Appendix 3 be noted;**
- iii. that the proposal to make any formal comment on the recommendations (i.e. to MHCLG) in the form of a letter be noted but not further acted upon;**
- iv. that the Monitoring Officer undertake a comparison of the current Council's current Ethical Standards arrangements in place with a view to identifying whether they conform to the best practice identified by the CSPL report, and that the comparison analysis be reported back to the Standards Committee for its consideration;**
- v. that the Monitoring Officer carries out a review the Council's current Member Code of Conduct and considers any amendments to reflect the outcomes of the CSLP report, and that any suggested**

changes to the Code be reported back to the Standards Committee for its consideration;

- VI. That a further report be brought to Standards Committee at the point of confirmation of the Parliamentary process for consideration of the CSPL recommendations and any subsequent changes to primary and secondary legislation; and
- vii. that a task and finish group be established to consider improving and understanding members declarations of interests and that Councillors Hanson & Lynch be the members appointed to the task and finish group together the Head of Legal & Governance, the Clerk to Standards Committee and other officers within Legal & Governance as appropriate.

**13 Dates of Standards Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2019/20**

**NOTED**

The next scheduled meeting of the Standards Committee on 13 February 2020 at 6.30pm and the special meeting required in late November/December 2019 to consider the outcome of the recruitment process for co-opted members to Standards Committee.

**14 Any Other unrestricted business the Chair considers to be urgent**

There were no items of unrestricted urgent business.

**NOTED**

**15 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

There were no requirement to exclude the public and press as there were no exempt urgent items to consider.

**NOTED**

**16 ANY OTHER EXEMPT BUSINESS THE CHAIR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT**

Nil Items.

**Duration of the meeting: 7.30pm- 8.30pm**

**Signed**

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**Chair of Committee**



**Contact:**  
Clifford Hart, Governance Services

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## UNRESTRICTED MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 13TH JANUARY, 2020

**Councillors Present:** Deputy Mayor Anntoinette Bramble in the Chair

Cllr Jessica Webb (Vice-Chair),  
Cllr Soraya Adejare, Cllr Humaira Garasia,  
Cllr Katie Hanson, Cllr Anna Lynch and  
Cllr Carole Williams

**Co optees Present** Adedoja Labinjo  
**Independent Person** Jonathan Stopes-Roe

**Apologies:** Councillor Sem Moema,  
Onagete Louison – Co-optee

**Officers in Attendance:** Dawn Carter-McDonald – Head of Legal & Governance  
Clifford Hart – Governance Officer - Legal & Governance

### 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for lateness and possible non-attendance was received on behalf of Councillor Moema, and for absence from Ms Louison – Co-opted Member.

**NOTED**

### 2 URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

**NOTED**

### 3 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interests.

**NOTED**

### 4 ANY UNRESTRICTED BUSINESS THE CHAIR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT

There were no items of unrestricted urgent business.

**NOTED**

**5 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

**RESOLVED**

**THAT the press and public be excluded from the proceedings of the Standards Committee during consideration of Exempt item 6 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 paragraph 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as amended.**

**SUMMARY OF EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL PROCEEDINGS**

**6 CONFIRMATION OF CO-OPTED MEMBER APPOINTMENTS TO STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**AGREED – the recommendations as detailed in the report.**

**7 ANY OTHER EXEMPT BUSINESS THE CHAIR CONSIDERS TO BE URGENT**

There were no items of exempt urgent business.

**NOTED**

**Duration of the meeting:** 19:00hrs – 19:08hrs

**Signed**

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**Chair of Committee**

**Contact:**

Clifford Hart, Governance Services



<p><b>Review of recommendations relating to Best Practice arising from the Committee on Standards in Public Life on the subject of ethical standards in Local Government</b></p>	
<p><b>STANDARDS COMMITTEE</b></p> <p>13 February 2020</p>	<p><b>CLASSIFICATION:</b></p> <p>Open</p>
<p><b>WARD(S) AFFECTED</b></p> <p>All Wards</p>	
<p><b>Dawn Carter-McDonald</b> <b>Head of Legal and Governance</b></p>	

**1. SUMMARY AND PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 The Standards Committee at its meeting on 16 September 2019 considered the findings of the Government’s Committee on Standards in Public Life (CSPL) review on the subject of local government ethical standards.
- 1.2 As part of that consideration and arising from the recommendations before the Committee on 16 September, the Committee agreed that the Council’s Monitoring Officer undertake a comparison of the current Council’s current Ethical Standards arrangements in place with a view to identifying whether they conform to the fifteen best practice recommendations identified by the CSPL report.

- 1.3 The comparison analysis in respect of the 15 best practice recommendations is now reported back to the Standards Committee for its consideration.

## **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**That the Standards Committee:**

- 2.1 Considers the comparison findings of the Monitoring Officer on Best Practice as detailed in the attached appendix 1 in respect of the 15 Best Practice recommendations of the CSPL report;**
- 2.5 Agrees to amend the Council's Best Practice protocol in line with the findings of the Monitoring Officer in respect of the 15 recommendations of the CSPL report; and**
- 2.3 Agrees to recommend to Full Council to agree the proposed updates..**

## **3. BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT**

- 3.1 The Standards Committee at its meeting on 16 September considered findings of the Government's Committee on Standards in Public Life (CSPL) review on the subject of local government ethical standards.
- 3.2 In considering the report the Standards Committee, one of the recommendations agreed was that the Council's Monitoring Officer undertake a comparison of the Council's current arrangements with a view to identifying whether they conformed to the fifteen best practice recommendations identified by the CSPL report.
- 3.3 The attached appendix 1 gives a comparison of the Council's current arrangements against those 15 best practice recommendations. The Council currently operates within the auspices of the 15 recommended best practice proposals, and the comparison shows this, together with those points where the Council partially meets the proposed best practice.
- 3.4 As a result of the comparison findings the Committee are asked to note the findings and to adopt those findings currently partially met, and recommend the adoption of these to Full Council.

## **4. COMMENTS OF THE GROUP DIRECTOR, FINANCE AND CORPORATE RESOURCES**

- 4.1 There are no immediate financial implications arising from this report.

## **5. COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR, LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE**

- 5.1 The Council has a duty under s 27 of the Localism Act 2011 to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by its members and to adopt a code of conduct that is consistent with the Nolan Principles.
- 5.2 The identified 'best practice' arrangements for the Council in the attached appendix1 represents in the main a good comparison of the LB Hackney's current arrangements benchmarked against the 15 best recommendations of the CSPL review .
- 5.3 The Council has the discretion to review and update its Code of Conduct for Members to reflect some of the identified good practice prior to legislation being introduced, and therefore it is proposed that the Standards Committee recommends to Full Council the adoption of best practice as recommended by the CSPL where the Council currently does not meet the proposed best practice proposals.

## **6. Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

- 6.1 There are no equality and diversity implications arising out this report.

## **Background papers**

None

**Suki Binjal**  
**Director of Legal & Governance**

## **APPENDICES**

Appendix 1

Best Practice as identified by the findings of the Committee on Standards in Public Life on the subject of ethical standards in local government, and comparison of the current practices of LB Hackney.

<b>Report Author</b>	Dawn Carter-McDonald
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	Head of Legal & Governance Dawn.Carter-McDonald@hackney.gov.uk 020 8356 4817
<b>Comments for and on behalf of the Group Director, Finance and Corporate Resources</b>	Michael Honeysett Director, Financial Management 020 8356 3332 Michael.honeysett@hackney.gov.uk
<b>Comments for and on behalf of the Director, Legal and Governance</b>	Dawn Carter-McDonald Head of Legal & Governance Dawn.Carter-McDonald@hackney.gov.uk 020 8356 4817



# **STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**13 February 2020**

**Review of recommendations  
relating to Best Practice arising  
from recommendations of the  
Committee on Standards in Public  
Life on the subject of ethical  
standards in Local Government**

**Appendix 1**

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Review of recommendations relating to Best Practice arising the Committee on Standards in Public Life on the subject of ethical standards in Local Government

Appendix 1

<b>Best Practice as Identified by the CSPL</b>	<b>LBH current best practice</b>
<p><b>Best practice 1:</b> Local authorities should include prohibitions on bullying and harassment in codes of conduct. These should include a definition of bullying and harassment, supplemented with a list of examples of the sort of behaviour covered by such a definition.</p>	<p><b>Part 5 – member code of conduct</b> <b>Under section 3 General Obligations</b></p> <p><b>3.1 You must treat others with respect.</b></p> <p><b>3.2 You must not—</b></p> <p><b>(a) do anything which may cause your authority to breach any of the equality enactments (as defined in the Equality Act 2010);</b></p> <p><b>(b) bully any person;</b></p> <p><b>(c) intimidate or attempt to intimidate any person who is or is likely to be—</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><b>(i) a complainant,</b> <b>(ii) a witness, or</b> <b>(iii) involved in the administration of any investigation or proceedings,</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><b>in relation to an allegation that a member (including yourself) has failed to comply with the authority's code of conduct; or</b></p> <p><b>(d) do anything which compromises or is likely to compromise the impartiality of those who work for, or on behalf of, the authority.</b></p> <p><b>Compliance with best practice recommendation</b></p>

Review of recommendations relating to Best Practice arising the Committee on Standards in Public Life on the subject of ethical standards in Local Government

Appendix 1

<p><b>Best practice 2:</b> Councils should include provisions in their code of conduct requiring councillors to comply with any formal standards investigation, and prohibiting trivial or malicious allegations by councillors.</p>	<p><b>Part 5 of Constitution – Section 2 Section 15 - Protocol for Member/Officer Relations</b></p> <p><b>Breach of the Protocol by a Member</b></p> <p><b>Members are required to report any matter that they believe may be a breach of the Code of Conduct to the Monitoring Officer.</b></p> <p><b>Officers are required to report any matter they believe may be a breach of the Code of Conduct to the Monitoring Officer. The Monitoring Officer may refer the complaint to the Standards Committee if there is evidence that there has been a breach of the Code of Conduct and the Monitoring officer considers it appropriate to do so.</b></p> <p><b>Co-opted Members of any Council Committee or Sub-Committee are required to report any matter they believe may be a breach of this or other Council protocols or a breach of the Code of Conduct by a non-voting co-opted member to the Monitoring Officer.</b></p> <p><b>Where there has been an alleged breach of the protocol the Monitoring Officer will arrange for the matter to be investigated and may refer the complaint to the Standards Committee to be determined under local procedures. A summary of all alleged breaches will be reported to the Standards Committee once each quarter.</b></p> <p><b>The Monitoring Officer, in conjunction with the Chief Executive, may refer the alleged breach to the</b></p>
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Review of recommendations relating to Best Practice arising the Committee on Standards in Public Life on the subject of ethical standards in Local Government

Appendix 1

<p><b>Best practice 3:</b> Principal authorities should review their code of conduct each year and regularly seek, where possible, the views of the public, community organisations and neighbouring authorities.</p>	<p>relevant party whip and leader where appropriate.</p> <p><b>Compliance with best practice recommendation</b></p> <p>The Monitoring Officer is able to seek amendment to, and amend parts of the Code of conduct as set out in Part 5 of the Constitution – the code sets out those parts which are within the power of the Monitoring officer and those parts which are reserved for Full Council to amend –</p> <p>Partial compliance with the best practice recommendation</p> <p>Consideration should be given to seeking views of the views of the public, community organisations and neighbouring authorities</p> <p>LBH meet this in part as the Co-optees and the independent person could arguably BE deemed to be members of the public. LBH does not seek the views of community organisations but it undertakes research with other local authorities when required to.</p>
<p><b>Best practice 4:</b> An authority's code should be readily accessible to both councillors and the public, in a prominent position on a council's website and available in council premises.</p>	<p>Available on the Council's website and in hard form held by Governance Services</p> <p><b>Compliance with best practice recommendation</b></p>

Review of recommendations relating to Best Practice arising the Committee on Standards in Public Life on the subject of ethical standards in Local Government

Appendix 1

<p><b>Best practice 5:</b> Local authorities should update their gifts and hospitality register at least once per quarter, and publish it in an accessible format, such as CSV.</p>	<p><b>Part 5 – member code of conduct</b> <b>Section – Part Section 11 – other interests sub para 11.4</b></p> <p><b>11.4</b> Where a Member has received a gift or hospitality with an estimated value of at least £25, this must be disclosed on the register of interests form and declared at meetings.</p> <p><b>Members Services/Governance Services</b> on a quarterly basis request members to update their Register of Interests – Members registers are readily available to view on the Council’s website and are available for public viewing in hard form (kept by Governance Services)</p> <p><b>Compliance with best practice recommendation</b></p>
<p><b>Best practice 6:</b> Councils should publish a clear and straightforward public interest test against which allegations are filtered.</p>	<p><b>Part 5 – member code of conduct</b></p> <p><b>Compliance with best practice recommendation</b></p>
<p><b>Best practice 7:</b> Local authorities should have access to at least two Independent Persons.</p>	<p>Currently have one independent person appointed to Standards Committee.</p> <p><b>Partial compliance with the best practice recommendation</b></p>
<p><b>Best practice 8:</b> An Independent Person should be consulted as to whether to undertake a formal</p>	

Review of recommendations relating to Best Practice arising the Committee on Standards in Public Life on the subject of ethical standards in Local Government

Appendix 1

<p>investigation on an allegation, and should be given the option to review and comment on allegations which the responsible officer is minded to dismiss as being without merit, vexatious, or trivial.</p>	<p><b>In accordance with Part 2 of the Constitution – Articles – Section 8 - The Standards Committee and Independent Person</b></p> <p><b>Sub sections 8.9 – 8.13 Independent Person</b></p> <p><b>Independent Person</b></p> <p><b>8.9 Full Council will appoint an Independent Person in accordance with section 28 of the Localism Act 2011.</b></p> <p><b>Role of the Independent Person</b></p> <p><b>8.10 The views of the Independent Person shall be sought and taken into account by the Council’s Monitoring Officer before the Council makes its decision to investigate a complaint.</b></p> <p><b>8.11 The Independent Person may be consulted by the Monitoring Officer on other allegations not covered in 8.10 above, and may also be consulted by a Member or voting co-opted member of the authority who is the subject of a particular allegation.</b></p> <p><b>8.12 The Independent Person, as part of an Independent Panel, also has a role in providing Full Council with advice, views and recommendations on the proposed disciplinary action or dismissal of specified statutory senior officers in accordance with the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2015.</b></p> <p><b>Appointment of the Independent Person</b></p>
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Review of recommendations relating to Best Practice arising the Committee on Standards in Public Life on the subject of ethical standards in Local Government

Appendix 1

<p><b>Best practice 9:</b> Where a local authority makes a decision on an allegation of misconduct following a formal investigation, a decision notice should be published as soon as possible on its website, including a brief statement of facts, the</p>	<p><b>8.13 Full Council may not appoint an Independent Person unless the appointment is:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>i) advertised in a local newspaper;</b></li> <li><b>ii) of a person who has submitted an application to the Council;</b></li> <li><b>iii) of a person interviewed and recommended for appointment by the Monitoring Officer or some other person appointed by him/her;</b></li> <li><b>iv) of a person who has not been a Member, co-opted member of officer of the Council in the five years immediately preceding the appointment;</b></li> <li><b>v) of a person who is not a close relative or close friend of a Councillor or officer of the Council;</b></li> <li><b>vi) of a person who has the ability to consider and evaluate information and arguments and reach sound, justifiable and fair conclusions based on that information;</b></li> <li><b>vii) of a person who is independent of party politics;</b></li> <li><b>viii) of a person who is not a member or officer of another local authority; and</b></li> <li><b>ix) of a person who’s appointment is approved by a majority of Members at Full Council.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Compliance with best practice recommendation</b></p> <p><b>Part 5 – member code of conduct</b></p> <p><b>Part 2 – Sub section 15 – breach of the code by a member</b></p>
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Review of recommendations relating to Best Practice arising the Committee on Standards in Public Life on the subject of ethical standards in Local Government

Appendix 1

<p>provisions of the code engaged by the allegations, the view of the Independent Person, the reasoning of the decision-maker, and any sanction applied.</p>	<p><b>Where there has been an alleged breach of the protocol the Monitoring Officer will arrange for the matter to be investigated and may refer the complaint to the Standards Committee to be determined under local procedures. A summary of all alleged breaches will be reported to the Standards Committee once each quarter.</b></p> <p><b>The Monitoring Officer, in conjunction with the Chief Executive, may refer the alleged breach to the relevant party whip and leader where appropriate.</b></p> <p><b>In accordance with defined procedures and the terms of reference of the Standards Committee and its Hearing Sub-Committee where LBH makes a decision on an allegation of misconduct following a formal investigation, a decision notice is published as soon as possible on the Council’s website, including a brief statement of facts, the provisions of the code engaged by the allegations, the view of the Independent Person, the reasoning of the decision-maker, and any sanction applied.</b></p> <p><b>The matter is also reported to Full Council</b></p> <p><b>Compliance with best practice recommendation</b></p>
<p><b>Best practice 10:</b> A local authority should have straightforward and accessible guidance on its website on how to make a complaint under</p>	<p><b>Available on the Council’s website under the section ethical standards in public life – clear accessible guidance available</b></p>

Review of recommendations relating to Best Practice arising the Committee on Standards in Public Life on the subject of ethical standards in Local Government

Appendix 1

<p>the code of conduct, the process for handling complaints, and estimated timescales for investigations and outcomes.</p> <p><b>Best practice 11:</b> Formal standards complaints about the conduct of a parish councillor towards a clerk should be made by the chair or by the parish council as a whole, rather than the clerk in all but exceptional circumstances.</p> <p><b>Best practice 12:</b> Monitoring Officers’ roles should include providing advice, support and management of investigations and adjudications on alleged breaches to parish councils within the remit of the principal authority. They should be provided with adequate training, corporate support and resources to undertake this work.</p> <p><b>Best practice 13:</b> A local authority should have procedures in place to address any conflicts of interest when undertaking a standards investigation. Possible steps should include asking the Monitoring Officer from a different authority to undertake the investigation.</p>	<p><b>Compliance with best practice recommendation</b></p> <p><b>NOT APPLICABLE</b></p> <p><b>NOT APPLICABLE</b></p> <p><b>Compliance in accordance with the provision of the Localism Act 2011 – the Monitoring Officer will make a judgement as to whether to place the investigation of a complaint in the hands of another local authority where a possible conflict of interest may apply.</b></p> <p><b>Compliance with best practice recommendation</b></p>
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Review of recommendations relating to Best Practice arising the Committee on Standards in Public Life on the subject of ethical standards in Local Government

Appendix 1

<p><b>Best practice 14:</b> Councils should report on separate bodies they have set up or which they own as part of their annual governance statement, and give a full picture of their relationship with those bodies. Separate bodies created by local authorities should abide by the Nolan principle of openness, and publish their board agendas and minutes and annual reports in an accessible place.</p> <p><b>Best practice 15:</b> Senior officers should meet regularly with political group leaders or group whips to discuss standards issues.</p>	<p><b>The Head of Internal Audit ensures compliance with this requirement as part of their annual statement to Audit Committee, and it is published on line and in the annual accounts.</b></p> <p><b>Compliance with best practice recommendation</b></p> <p><b>This practice currently happens within the ‘3 2 1 with golden triangle’ arrangement where Senior Cabinet members meet with the Chief Executive and Mayor.</b></p> <p><b>The Chief Executive meets with the Opposition Leader on a regular basis as well where standard issues would be discussed.</b></p> <p><b>Compliance with best practice recommendation</b></p>
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<b>Review of the current Members Declarations of Interests Form</b>	
<b>STANDARDS COMMITTEE</b>  <b>13 February 2020</b>	<b>CLASSIFICATION:</b>  <b>Open</b>
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED</b>  <b>All Wards</b>	
<b>Dawn Carter-McDonald</b> <b>Head of Legal and Governance</b>	

**1. SUMMARY AND PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To provide the Council’s Standards Committee with an update of the review of the Members Declaration of Interests form arising from a recommendation of the Standards Committee of 16 September 2019.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**That the Standards Committee:**

- 2.1 notes the findings of the Member Working Group of 11 November 2019 attached at Appendix 1 in respect of a short review of the current Members

**Register of Interests Declarations Form, following the request of Standards Committee of 16 September to review the current Members Register of Interests Form attached at Appendix 2; and**

**2.2 Considers and agrees the proposed revised new Members Declarations of Interests Form attached at Appendix 3 for use by Members for the Municipal Year 2020/21.**

### **3. BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT**

3.1 The Standards Committee at its meeting on 16 September considered findings of the Government's Committee on Standards in Public Life (CSPL) review on the subject of local government ethical standards.

3.2 In considering the report the Standards Committee during its wide ranging discussions particularly commented on the existing LB Hackney register of gifts and hospitality and general declarations form, and concerns that it was not particularly helpful or clear .

3.3 The committee felt that it was an opportune time to review and suggest a clearer summary of what should and should not be declared, and it was therefore agreed that a task and finish group comprising of members and officers look at the issues of declarations, and explanations of what was best practice and examples of what things should be recorded.

3.4 The task and finish group met on 11 November 2019 and carried out a succinct and robust review of the current declaration form and as a result a number of changes were recommended as detailed in Appendix 1 attached.

3.5 Following on from the task and finish group officers then revised the existing declarations form (shown at appendix 2) and are proposing the adoption of a new declaration form at Appendix 3. The new form attempts to answer some of the concerns raised regarding ambiguity and now shows a much clearer and better explanation of what is being requested.

3.6 The Committee is therefore asked to consider the findings of the Task and Finish Group and the proposed changes to the existing form and to agree to adopt the new form for use by members from the beginning of the Municipal Year 2020/21.

### **4. COMMENTS OF THE GROUP DIRECTOR, FINANCE AND CORPORATE RESOURCES**

4.1 There are no immediate financial implications arising from this report.

### **5. COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR, LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE**

**6. Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty**

6.1 There are no equality and diversity implications arising out this report.

**Background papers**

None

**Dawn Cater-McDonald**  
**Head of Legal & Governance**

**APPENDICES**

Appendix 1

Findings of Task & Finish Group

Appendix 2

Current Members Declarations Form

Appendix 3

Proposed New Members Declarations Form

<b>Report Author</b>	Clifford Hart Governance Services Officer Clifford.hart@hackney.gov.uk 020 8356 3597
<b>Comments for and on behalf of the Group Director, Finance and Corporate Resources</b>	Michael Honeysett Director, Financial Management 020 8356 3332 Michael.honeysett@hackney.gov.uk
<b>Comments for and on behalf of the Director, Legal and Governance</b>	Dawn Carter-McDonald Head of Legal and Governance Dawn Carter-McDonald@hackney.gov.uk 020 8356 4817





# **STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**13 February 2020**

## **Review of the current Members Declarations of Interests Form**

### **Appendix 1**

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DPI Task and Finish Group – 11 November 2019

LB Hackney form – below in **red** is additions and **green** - deletions

**Change numbering on form from roman numerals to numbers**

**Page 1**

- Register of Members' Pecuniary and other interest – **change Pecuniary to 'Financial'**
- **Give a plain English explanation of what is meant by Financial interest – the definition of pecuniary**

Part A

- 1. Where it states **profession** or **vocation** – change to 'Employment or business'**

**In box put titles 'Description of your employment or activity' and 'Name of Employer or Body'**

- 2. Insert new box 'SPONSORSHIP' as title and insert the following wording below as follows**

**'Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit in relation to your work for the authority as a Member , or elections'**

**Page 2**

- 3. Insert 'Contracts with the Council' in title**

**In box below add 'Description of Contract'**

- 4. **Any land** – change to 'LAND - Nature of Interest in Land within LB Hackney'**

**In box below add on left hand side –**

**Address/Description**

**In box on right hand side list**

**Leaseholder**

**Tenant**

**Owner**

**Other:.....**

Page 3

5. Delete in title the words ' this Authority' and insert 'LB of Hackney'

6. Delete existing wording in title and Insert ' Corporate Tenancies – Please state any tenancies where (to 'M' knowledge) – (a) the landlord is the LB Hackney; and (b) the tenant is ba body in which 'M' has a beneficial interest 'i.e. a director , or Board of directors'

In box – insert 'yes as member I have a beneficial interest – this is .....

7. Insert in title at the beginning ' SECURITIES'

PAGE 4

PART B

Delete 'PECUNIARY' AND REPLACE WITH 'FINANCIAL'

1. TITLE BLURB TO AMENDED TO READ 'ANY BODY OR ORGANISATION OF WHICH YOU ARE APPOINTED TO OR BY LB HACKNEY

IN BOX BELOW INSERT

'NAME OF BODY'

'DESCRIPTION OF APPOINTMENT AND ORGANISATION

PAGE 5

PART C

Delete 'PECUNIARY' AND REPLACE WITH 'FINANCIAL'

1. Where it states profession or vocation – change to 'Employment or business'

In box put titles 'Description of THEIR employment or activity' and 'Name of Employer or Body'

2. Insert new box 'SPONSORSHIP' as title and insert the following wording below as follows

'Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit in relation to THEIR work for the authority as a Member , or elections'

Same wording to be inserted for the remainder of C as in A.

PAGE 8

PART D

**1. Delete £25 and insert up to £50**

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# **STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**13 February 2020**

## **Review of the current Members Declarations of Interests Form**

### **Appendix 2**

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## REGISTER OF MEMBERS' PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS

Name:

Signature:

Date:

### PART A – MEMBERS' PECUNIARY INTERESTS

i) Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on by you for profit or for gain.

ii) The name of any person or body or organisation, other than this Authority, who has made a payment or provision of any other financial benefit to you in respect any expenses incurred in carrying out your duties as a Member or any election expenses.

iii) Any contract for goods, services or works made between this Authority and you, or a body or organisation in which you have a beneficial interest, which is to be executed and yet to be discharged.

iv) Any land in the area of this Authority in which you have a beneficial interest.

v) Any land in the area of this Authority for which you have a licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy for 28 days or longer.

vi) Any land where the landlord is this Authority and you, or a body or organisation in which you have a beneficial interest, are the tenant.

vii) The name of any person or body or organisation who has a place of business or land in the area of this Authority, and in whom you have a beneficial interest in a class of securities of that person or body that exceeds the nominal value of £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital (whichever is the lower).

## **PART B – MEMBERS’ OTHER NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

i) Any body or organisation of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management and to which you are appointed or nominated by this Authority.

ii) Any body or organisation —

- (a) exercising functions of a public nature;
- (b) directed to charitable purposes;
- (c) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union);
- (d) relevant to your role as a Member of the Council;

of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management.

**PART C – PECUNIARY INTERESTS OF MEMBERS' SPOUSE OR CIVIL PARTNER**

- i) Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on by your spouse or civil partner for profit or for gain.

- ii) The name of any person or body or organisation, other than the authority to which they are elected, who has made a payment or provision of any other financial benefit to your spouse or civil partner in respect any expenses incurred in carrying their duties as a Member of that authority or any election expenses.

- iii) Any contract for goods, services or works made between this Authority and your

spouse or civil partner, or a body or organisation in which your spouse or civil partner has a beneficial interest, which is to be executed and yet to be discharged.

iv) Any land in the area of this Authority in which your spouse or civil partner has a beneficial interest.

v) Any land in the area of this Authority for which your spouse or civil partner has a licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy for 28 days or longer.

Any land where the landlord is this Authority and your spouse or civil partner, or a body or organisation in which your spouse or civil partner has a beneficial interest, are the tenant.

vii) The name of any person or body or organisation who has a place of business or land in this Authority's area, and in whom your spouse or civil partner has a beneficial interest in a class of securities of that person or body or organisation that exceeds the nominal value of £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital (whichever is the lower).

**PART D – Gifts and Hospitality**

i) Any gift or hospitality received with a value of at least £25.

**This form must be submitted to Gareth Sykes Governance Services Officer, c/o Governance Services, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Room 118, Hackney Town Hall, London, London E8 1EA**

**NOTE:**

**MEMBERS MUST REGISTER DETAILS OF ANY NEW PECUNIARY OR OTHER INTEREST WITHIN 28 DAYS OF BECOMING A MEMBER, OR BECOMING AWARE OF THE INTEREST.**

**AS DETAILED IN PARAGRAPH 15.1 OF THE MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT, FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISION ON DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS IS A CRIMINAL OFFENCE AND COULD RESULT IN PROSECUTION. IF CONVICTED A FINE OF UP TO £5,000 (LEVEL 5) MAY BE IMPOSED AND/OR DISQUALIFICATION FOR A PERIOD OF UP TO 5 YEARS.**



# **STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**13 February 2020**

## **Review of the current Members Declarations of Interests Form**

### **Appendix 3**

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# Register of Members' Financial Interests

## Councillor \_\_\_\_\_

- This register of interests was published on \_\_\_\_\_
- More information about this councillor
- Printer friendly view

**Section 30 of the Localism Act 2011 requires that all members register their pecuniary (financial) interests. The Act also requires that the pecuniary interests of Members' husband/wife or partner with whom they live with as a civil partner are registered too.**

**A disclosable pecuniary interests is one which falls within the categories below, as set out in section 30(3) of the Act.**

I, Councillor \_\_\_\_\_, a Member of the London Borough of Hackney give notice that I have the following financial interests

**1. EMPLOYMENT, OFFICE, TRADE, or BUSINESS  
(carried on by you for profit or gain)**

Description of your employment or activity	Name of Employer or Business
You	Your Spouse or Civil Partner

**2. SPONSORSHIP - Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit in relation to your work for the authority as a Member, or elections'**

<b>You</b>	<b>Your Spouse or Civil Partner</b>

**3. CONTRACTS - Contracts between you and the Council**

<b>Description of Contract</b>	
<b>You</b>	<b>Your Spouse or Civil Partner</b>

**4. LAND – Nature of interest in land which is within the London Borough of Hackney**

<b>Address / Description</b>	<b>PLEASE INDICATE:</b>  <b>Leaseholder</b>  <b>Tenant</b>  <b>Owner</b>  <b>Other:</b>
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**5. LICENCES - land within the London Borough of Hackney for which you have a licence to occupy for 28 days or longer**

**Description of Land**

**6. CORPORATE TENANCIES - Please state any tenancies where (a) the landlord is the London Borough of Hackney; and (b) the tenant is a body in which you have a beneficial interest 'i.e. a director , or Board**

**Description of Land**

**7. SECURITIES – The name of any person or body or organisation who has a place of business or land in the area of this Authority, and in whom you have a beneficial interest in a class of securities of that person or body that exceeds the nominal value of £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital (whichever is the lower)**

--

**8. OTHER FINANCIAL INTERESTS - ANY BODY OR ORGANISATION OF WHICH YOU ARE A MEMBER OR IN A POSITION OF GENERAL CONTROL OR MANAGEMENT AND TO WHICH YOU ARE APPOINTED OR NOMINATED BY THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HACKNEY**

<b>You</b>	<b>Description of Appointment</b>
<b>Name of body/organisation</b>	<b>Your Spouse or Civil Partner</b>

**9. OTHER INTERESTS - Functions of a Public Nature**

<b>You</b>	<b>Your Spouse or Civil Partner</b>

**10. OTHER INTERESTS - Charities**

<b>You</b>	<b>Your Spouse or Civil Partner</b>

**11. GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY – Any gift or hospitality received with a value of £50 or more**

<b>You</b>	<b>Your Spouse or Civil Partner</b>

**Date form signed:**

**Reviewed and signed:**

**Published online by:**



By virtue of paragraph(s) 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

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