

Members' Dispensation	
STANDARDS COMMITTEE 2 July 2018	CLASSIFICATION: OPEN
WARD(S) AFFECTED ALL WARDS	
Suki Binjal Director Governance and Legal Services	

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1.1 The Localism Act 2011 requires all local authorities to adopt a Code of Conduct for its elected Members and voting co-optees.
- 1.1.2 The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 requires all Members to complete a declaration of interests form on their election to office, and for voting co-optees to complete a form on their appointment to office.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The Standards Committee is asked to agree a dispensation for all Members to withhold their private addresses from the published Register of Interest Forms on the website.

3. REASONS FOR THE DECISION

- 3.1 In 2014 Members expressed their concerns about disclosing home addresses on the website. The Monitoring Officer at that time agreed a dispensation to enable Members to withhold their home addresses from the website.
- 3.2 The dispensation was given for the previous administration 2014-2018 and as we are now at the start of a new administration following the local elections in May, the Committee is being asked to agree a dispensation for the term of this administration. The dispensation will remain in place until the first meeting of the Standards Committee or any committee which has the functions of the Standards Committee in 2022.

4 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Under the Localism Act 2011 all Councils are required to promote high ethical standards in public office.
- 4.2 Members and co-optees have completed declaration of interests forms which include home addresses. A dispensation was granted to all Members in 2014 to withhold their home addresses from the published form on the web.

5. COMMENTS OF GROUP DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND RESOURCES

- 5.1 This report seeks the Committee's consent to a dispensation for the new municipal administrative term. There are no financial implications in this.

6. COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE SERVICES

- 6.1 All Members and voting Co-optees are required under The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 to complete a declaration of interests form.
- 6.2 Under the Council's procedures, within the Code of Conduct all co-optees, whether with voting rights or not are also required to complete a form.
- 6.3 The Code of Conduct provides for the Monitoring Officer to grant specific dispensations for Members and co-opted members. Any other application for dispensation needs to be put before the Standards Committee. A dispensation for Members and co-opted members to withhold their addresses from the Register of Interest Form published on

the web, is such a dispensation to be determined by the Standards Committee.

Report Author	Tess Merrett Tel: 020 8356 3432 Email: tess.merrett@hackney.gov.uk
Comments of the Corporate Director of Finance and Resources	Ian Williams, Group Director Finance & Resources 020 8356 3003 ian.williams@hackney.gov.uk
Comments on behalf of the Director of Legal and Governance Services	Dawn Carter-McDonald Tel: 020 8356 4817 Email: dawn.carter-mcdonald@hackney.gov.uk