

Article 9 – Standards Committee

The Council has a Standards Committee. Although the Standards Committee has an important role in strengthening and maintaining high standards of conduct, such ethical concerns are also reflected throughout the Constitution.

9.01 Standards Committee

The Council will establish a Standards Committee.

9.02 Composition

POLITICAL BALANCE

Standards Committees do not have to comply with the Political Balance rules.

- (a) **Membership.** The Standards Committee will be composed of:
 - Two Councillors, one from each Political Group who shall not be the Mayor and Leader
 - Four persons who are not Councillors or officers of the Council or any other body having a Standards Committee (these are known as independent members).
- (b) **Independent members.** Independent members will be entitled to vote at meetings;
- (c) **Chairing the Committee.** The Chair shall be an independent member

9.03 Role and Function

The Standards Committee will have the following roles and functions:

- (a) promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct by Councillors, co-opted members and Church and Parent Governor representatives, who sit on Council Committees or bodies;
- (b) assisting the Councillors, co-opted members (and Church and Parent Governor representatives who sit on Council Committees or bodies) to observe the Members' Code of Conduct;
- (c) advising the Council on the adoption or revision of the Members' Code of Conduct;
- (d) monitoring the operation of the Members' Code of Conduct;
- (e) advising, training or arranging to train Councillors and co-opted members (and church and Parent Governor representatives who sit on Council Committees or bodies) on matters relating to the Members' Code of Conduct;

- (f) granting dispensations to Councillors and co-opted members (and Church and Parent Governor representatives who sit on Council Committees or bodies);
- (g) consider any reports from a case tribunal or interim case tribunal, and any report from the Monitoring Officer on any matter which is referred by an Ethical Standards Officer to the Monitoring Officer.
- (h) Monitoring the operation of the officers Code of Conduct
- (i) recommending appropriate protocols for the Council to include in its Constitution.

9.04 **Quorum**

The quorum for the Standards Committee shall be three persons.