

# ASSEMBLY

23 FEBRUARY 2011

## REPORT OF THE ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE

<b>Title: Appointments</b>		<b>For Decision</b>
<b>Summary:</b>  An independent member vacancy has arisen on the Committee following the resignation of Jennifer Spearman. In the light of the Government's proposals as part of the Decentralisation and Localism Bill, the Standards Committee recommends that the position be left vacant at this time and be reconsidered in due course when the future of the Standards regime is more certain.  <b>Wards Affected:</b> None		
<b>Recommendation(s)</b>  The Assembly is recommended to agree that the independent member vacancy on the Standards Committee be left vacant at this time and reconsidered when the future of the Standards regime is more certain.		
<b>Reason(s)</b>  It is suggested the independent member vacancy remain unfilled as the process to recruit a new member takes a little while and the future of the Standards regime should become clearer towards the end of the calendar year at which stage the Council will be required to make a local decision on how to proceed.		
<b>Comments of the Chief Financial Officer</b>  There are no financial implications as a result of this report albeit there will be a small saving in the allowances budgets as a result of the vacancy.		
<b>Comments of the Legal Partner</b>  The Decentralisation and Localism Bill proposes the abolition of Standards for England and removal of the current obligations on local authorities to adopt a national Code of Conduct. It will allow for local authorities to manage their governance issues under local arrangements, including the option to adoption a code of conduct on a voluntary basis. Members will be advised further by officers once the full details are known of the proposed changes.		
<b>Head of Service:</b>  Nina Clark	<b>Title:</b>  Divisional Director of Legal and Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer	<b>Contact Details:</b>  Tel: 020 8227 2114 Fax: 020 8227 2252 Minicom: 020 8227 2594 Email: <a href="mailto:nina.clark@lbbd.gov.uk">nina.clark@lbbd.gov.uk</a>