

SECTION L - THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

1. Promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct by Members and employees.
2. Advising on the adoption, or revision of a Code of Conduct for Members.
3. Arranging Member training, as necessary, in relation to the Code of Conduct for Members.
4. Monitoring the operation of the Code.
5. Advising on the adoption or revision of a Code of Conduct for Employees.
6. Considering any general matters referred by Standards for England.
7. Considering any matters specifically referred by Ethical Standards Officers (working on behalf of the national Board) on findings of investigations.
8. Considering any matters where allegations of breaches of the Members' Code of Conduct have been referred to the Monitoring Officer for investigation
9. Considering the local determination of all such matters referred to in 7 and 8.
10. Appointing sub-committees to:
 - 10.1. carry out an initial assessment of formal complaints of Member misconduct and to review, at a complainant's request, any decision made by a sub-committee who dealt with an initial assessment;
 - 10.2. receive reports from the Monitoring Officer following investigation of complaints and determine cases and, where necessary, to (i) carry out a formal hearing as part of this process, and (ii) where failure to comply with the Code of Conduct has been found, impose upon the Member concerned any one of or any combination of sanctions as set out in Regulation 19 of The Standards Committee (England) Regulations 2008;
 - 10.3. with the agreement of the Chair of the Standards Committee, to consider any other items of Standards Committee business which are urgent.
11. Advising on "Whistleblowing" and any other procedures or policies associated with proprietary and/or ethical standards and receiving and considering any reports arising from, or concerned with, such procedures or policies.
12. Receiving and considering any reports of concern from the Chief Executive, the Monitoring Officer, the Divisional Director of Legal & Democratic Services, the Divisional Director of Human Resources and Organisational

Development, or the Corporate Director of Finance and Resources associated with conduct or probity issues.

13. Granting dispensations under the Standards Committee (Further Provisions) (England) Regulations 2009 (requirements relating to Members' interests as set out in the Code of Conduct).
14. Considering and determining any appeals further to the Monitoring Officer's determination of a complaint concerning an alleged breach by a Member of the Member/Employee Relations Protocol, in accordance with the provision within that document.
15. Considering and determining any appeals by individual members of staff whose posts have been determined as politically restricted in accordance with the Local Government (Political Restrictions) Regulations 1990 (as amended).
16. Making appropriate recommendations to the Assembly.