

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

17 May 2004

Attendance:

Councillors:

Sutton (Chairman) (P)

Fothergill
Hammerton (P)
Macmillan

McKay
Quar (P)
Rees

Others in attendance:

Mr D Makewell (Parish Member)
Dr B Spender (Independent Member)
Mr J Spokes (Independent Member)

1458. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Fothergill, McKay, Macmillan and Rees. There were also apologies from Mr P Gwynn and Professor R Johns.

1459. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 22 September 2003 be approved and adopted.

1460. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no questions asked/statements made.

1461. **LOCAL INVESTIGATION AND DETERMINATION OF COMPLAINTS – RESPONSE TO CONSULATION PAPERS**

(Report ST35 refers)

The Committee supported the proposed responses set out in the above report, subject to the addition of one further comment, which related to the proposal not to publicise identities and other details of cases which had resulted in no adverse findings. Members considered that it was in the public interest to at least publish the total number of complaints received and the number of cases investigated with outcomes. This could be achieved without revealing identities etc, and would act as a reassurance to the public that the relevant authorities were actively pursuing complaints and thereby, seeking to uphold standards in public life.

RESOLVED:

That, subject to the inclusion of the above comment, the proposed responses as set out in the report be approved and forwarded to the Standards Board for England and the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister as representing the views of this Authority on the two consultation papers.

1462. **MONITORING OF COMMITTEE PROCEEDINGS BY INDEPENDENT MEMBERS**
(Report ST34 refers)

RESOLVED:

1. That the Independent Members be thanked for undertaking the monitoring work.

2. That the recommended responses arising out of the comments made by the Independent Members be agreed and the City Secretary and Solicitor be requested to pursue these matters accordingly.

3. That the appropriate points made in respect of the Planning Development Control and Licensing & Regulation Committees be incorporated into the specific training sessions held for Committee Members, which would take place at the beginning of the 2004/2005 Municipal Year.

4. That the comments of the Independent Members be drawn to the attention of all Group Leaders.

The meeting commenced at 6.00pm and concluded at 6.30pm

Chairman