Standards Committee Decision Summary Wednesday 28 April 2010

Item 9 - Promotion of Ethical Standards

(1) Received a paper on ways in which the Committee could support the third principle in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance relating to the promotion of values for the Council and demonstrating values of good governance.

(2) Agreed that, in relation to the section about promoting the role of the Standards Committee, the suggestion for ensuring there is an ethical standards presence at all Council/Committees be not adopted.

(3) Agreed that, in relation to the section on publicity for the Standards complaints process:-

- (i) The Committee would want input into the staging of any ethical awareness week.
- (ii) That a report be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee on options, with potential value for each, for undertaking surveys on perceptions within the Council and among the public, of Standards issues.
- (iii) That a further report be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee on the operation of procedures for notifying Parish or Town Councils on the outcome of Standards hearings.
- (iv) That training of Governance Officers on the Code of Conduct be made available so that such staff may offer advice to Committees and the public on the operation of the Standards system.
- (v) That the pocket guide to the Code of Conduct produced by Standards for England be made available at public meetings of the Council and its Committees.

(4) That the training programme on the Code of Conduct should include opportunities for participation by Parish Councillors and Clerks.

(5) That feedback be provided to a future meeting of the Committee on the number of hits on the Kirklees website by the public accessing Code of Conduct and Standards issues.

(6) That the Committee be kept informed of progress of the Kirklees Council's webcasting of its meetings.