

SC2

Contact Officer: Andrea Woodside - Tel. 01484 221715

KIRKLEES COUNCIL
STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Monday 7 November 2011

Present: Councillors Hardcastle, Ridgway, C Smith and K Smith

Co-opted Members: Mr P Blythe (in the Chair), Councillor P Cunnington and Councillor T Bellamy

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Patrick and Professor Kitson.

1 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Pursuant to Minute Number 7, the Monitoring Officer advised that the Authority did not have the power to implement the suggested changes to process. It was agreed that the Committee would be provided with a template of the current letter layout.

RESOLVED - That the Minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2011 be approved as a correct record.

2 Interests

No interests were declared.

3 Admission of the Public

It was noted that all agenda items would be considered in public session.

4 Deputations/Petitions

No deputations or petitions were received.

5 Public Question Time

No questions were asked.

6 Update on Complaints

The Committee were provided with a report which set out the latest position on the complaints investigation process. The Committee noted that there were presently five complaints and that, since the previous meeting, fifteen complaints had been considered by the Sub-Committee.

RESOLVED - That the update on complaints be noted.

7 Update on recent decisions of Assessment and Review Sub-Committees

The Committee received a report which set out recent decisions of the Sub-Committee. It was noted that, since the meeting of 29 March 2011, fifteen complaints had been considered by the Local Assessment Sub-Committee, two complaints had been considered by the Review Sub-Committee and that two further decisions were now awaiting review.

The report provided a detailed breakdown of the complaints that had been considered.

RESOLVED - That the report be noted.

8 Any Other Business

The Monitoring Officer provided an update on the progression of the Localism Bill, which had been subject to a third reading in the House of Lords on 31 October 2011.

The Committee noted that the Bill had now been amended to require all Local Authorities to have a Code of Conduct. If approved, the Code of Conduct would be consistent with the Nolan principles, require the registration and declaration of interests, continue to apply to Parish Councils and require a regime to deal with complaints at a local level.

9 Dates of Future Meetings

The meetings schedule was noted.