

London Borough of Islington
Standards Committee – 19th April 2005

Non-confidential minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee held at the Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD on 19th April 2005.

Present: Father Jim Kennedy, John Gilbert, Jo Michie and Councillor Derek Sawyer

Also Present: Councillor Stefan Kasprzyk

Father Jim Kennedy in the Chair

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Item 1)**
Apologies were received from Matthew Saunders and Councillor Terry Stacy.
2. **DECLARATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS (Item 2)**
None.
3. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS (Item 3)**
None.
4. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 4)**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 11th January 2005 be confirmed and the Chair authorised to sign them.

5. **STANDARDS AND ETHICS INDICATORS (Item 5)**

RESOLVED:

(1) That the Monitoring Officer check with the Standards Board: why the case about failure to declare a personal interest in GP provision in Islington was not referred to the Standards Committee what the status of the decision letter was that had been sent to the Monitoring Officer in this case and why it did not appear on the Board's website.

(2) That future reports on Standards and Ethics Indicators include the previous quarters figures on a rolling basis to make comparisons easier.

Noted that in relation to the ongoing Standards Board case, the hearing for Councillor Creagh had been set for 23rd May and the hearing for the remaining Councillors was set for three weeks in September and October 2005.

6. **PUBLICITY FOR THE COMMITTEE (Item 6)**

RESOLVED:

That the Committee agree the draft text, for the website and publicity material, subject to members e-mailing any minor changes they may have to John Lynch.

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7. REVIEW OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS (Item 7)

RESOLVED:

That the Corporate Services Committee be advised that this Committee agrees the suggested responses set out in the report subject to (a) members e-mailing the Monitoring Officer any minor changes they may have, (b) agreeing, in relation to question 4 – that there should be a specific provision on bullying and the ACAS definition be used with a provision that bullying could be a one-off incident rather than a pattern of events.

8. ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MONITORING OFFICER AND GUIDANCE ON PUBLICITY BEFORE THE GENERAL ELECTION (Item 8)

RESOLVED:

That:

- (1) the information contained in the report in relation to the role of the Monitoring Officer be noted;
- (2) officers draw up a suggested work programme for the Committee for the next meeting based on the suggestions outlined in paragraph 5 of the report;
- (3) the authority undertake the Ethical Standards Self-Assessment Survey for Members and Officers that was run by the Audit Commission, the results of which would be reported back to a future meeting of the Committee;
- (4) the Monitoring Officer provide advice to the Committee about holding hustings meetings prior to an election that could be circulated to interested parties in readiness for the Borough elections in May 2006.

9. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS (Item 9)

That the dates of future meetings on:

11th July 2005
11th October 2005
12th January 2006
30th March 2006

be noted.

10. ANY URGENT BUSINESS (Item 10)

Annual Assembly of Standards Committees

It was noted that the fourth annual assembly of Standards Committees would be held in Birmingham on 5-6th September 2006. Members should contact John Lynch direct if they wished to attend the event. A reminder will also be made at the next meeting of the Committee.

The meeting ended at 7.55pm.

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CHAIR

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