

London Borough of Islington

Standards Committee – 8th SEPTEMBER 2003

Non-confidential minutes of the meeting of the Standards Committee held at the Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD on 8th September 2003

Present: Father Jim Kennedy
Councillors Derek Sawyer and Terry Stacy

Father Jim Kennedy in the Chair

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Item 1)**

Apologies for absence were received from Jo Michie, who had suffered an accident and was in hospital undergoing an operation.

The Committee wished Jo a speedy recovery.

2. **DECLARATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS (Item 2)**

None.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 3)**

None.

4. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 4)**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd June 2003 be confirmed and the Chair authorised to sign them.

In relation to Minute 7(1), it was noted that Labour Group were against purchasing any such indemnity insurance whereas the Liberal Democrat Group were in favour of it.

In relation to Minute 7(2), it was reported that officers were still awaiting a response from the ISP on this and would chase up the matter.

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

Noted that the next quarter's report would include details of any findings of maladministration in relation to Ombudsman cases and Headline figures from the annual complaints report.

RESOLVED:

(1) That in respect of the objection to the Council's Accounts, the Director of Law and Public Services would clarify whether this would be subject to any Public Interest report by the District Auditor.

(2) That in respect of the District Auditors Probity Questions, officers report back to the next meeting on Islington's position in respect of these questions.

Standards Committee- 8th September 2003

6. **PROCEDURAL GUIDANCE FOR STANDARDS COMMITTEES ON HOLDING HEARINGS AT A LOCAL LEVEL (Item 6)**

RESOLVED:

(1) That officers report back to the next meeting with a procedure tailored to Islington's position, within an introduction that sets the scene generally on how complaints re potential breaches of the code were dealt with.

(2) That officers approach Peter Keith-Lucas of Wragge and Co. about arranging training for the Standards Committee members using role play on holding such hearings.

7. **ANY URGENT BUSINESS**

(i) NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the next meeting of the Committee be held on Monday, 8th December at 7.00 p.m.

The meeting ended at 7.55pm.

CHAIR

Contact Officer: John Lynch
Designation: Head of Scrutiny & Democratic Services
Telephone No.: 020-7527 3002
Fax No.: 020-7527 3092
E-mail: john.lynch@islington.gov.uk