

Report of: **Director of Corporate Resources**

Meeting of	Date	Agenda Item	Ward(s)
Standards Committee	11 th December 2008	5	

Delete as appropriate	Exempt	Non-exempt

If exempt under para.10.4, category (1-7) of the Access to Information Rules in Part 4 of the Constitution rules give reasons. Because: **(Please delete if not required)**

SUBJECT: MEMBERSHIP OF SUB-COMMITTEES

1. Synopsis

The Committee have already established an Initial Assessment Sub-Committee and a Review Sub-Committee to consider complaints of alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct by Members. This report asks the Committee to appoint the latest independent member, Alison Vydulinska, as a named alternate member on both the Initial Assessment Sub and Review Sub-Committee.

2. Recommendation

That Alison Vydulinska be appointed as an alternate member to the Initial Assessment Sub-Committee and Review Sub-Committee with immediate effect.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Committee, at their June 2008 meeting, established the Initial Assessment Sub-Committee and Review Sub-Committee to deal with the new process for dealing with complaints about a member's conduct.

- 3.2 Two independent members and one councillor are appointed to each Sub-Committee with the other members and councillors appointed as alternate members to the opposite Sub-Committees they are serving on.
- 3.3 Alison Vydulinska was appointed to the Committee by Council at their meeting on 9th October 2008 and it is recommended that she be appointed as an alternate to both the Initial Assessment Sub-Committee and Review Sub-Committee to give greater flexibility when dealing with cases.
- 3.4 Obviously if Alison was part of a Sub-Committee that considered a complaint at the Initial Assessment stage she would not be able to take part in the review of that decision.

4. Implications

4.1 Legal

The Standards Committee (England) Regulations 2008 set out the framework for the operation of a locally based system for the assessment, referral, investigation and hearing of complaints of member misconduct.

The Regulations derive from the Local Government Act 2000, as amended by the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. The Sub-Committees need to consist of no less than three members of the Standards Committee, including an independent member and must also be chaired by an independent member.

4.2 Financial

There are no financial implications.

4.3 Equality Impact Assessment

There are no equality implications arising from this report.

5. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

Background papers:

None.

Final Report Clearance

Signed by
Director of Corporate Resources Date

Received by
Head of Democratic Services Date

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