

Report of: **Director of Corporate Resources**

Meeting of	Date	Agenda Item	Ward(s)
Standards Committee	9 th June 2009	6	

Delete as appropriate	Exempt	Non-exempt
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SUBJECT: REGISTER OF GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY

1. Synopsis

This report sets out gifts and hospitality declared by Members over the last six months.

2. Recommendation

That the Committee note and comment on the report as appropriate.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Members' Code of Conduct requires members to declare any gift or hospitality that they have received or declined in connection with their official duties with an estimated value of £25 or more. Members need to declare these gifts or hospitality within 28 days of becoming aware of them.
- 3.2 All gifts and hospitality are recorded on-line on the Council's intranet. The system provides a complete audit trail for each member's declarations.
- 3.3 The Committee agreed that officers would report twice a year setting out declarations made by members over a six month period.
- 3.4 Attached as Appendix A is a schedule containing details of all the gifts and hospitality declared by members from January to May 2009.

- 3.5 All declarations are reviewed by the Head of Democratic Services who is automatically notified by the electronic system when any gift or hospitality is declared.
- 3.6 18 declarations have been made by 6 members over the five month period. There have been no declarations from any Labour or Green Party members. This compares with 45 declarations made by 12 members for the previous six month period.
- 3.7 The largest number of declarations were as follows:
- Councillor James Kempton, Leader of the Council - 7 declarations
 - Councillor Terry Stacy, Deputy Leader of the Council – 5 declarations
 - Councillor Barbara Smith – 2 declarations
 - Councillor Jyoti Vaja – 2 declarations
 - Councillor Marisha Ray – 1 declaration
 - Councillor Ruth Polling, Executive Member – 1 declaration
- 3.8 Of the 18 declarations:
- 2 were declined
 - 1 was donated to others
 - 15 were accepted.
- 3.9 The majority of the declarations accepted were either for dinners/lunches, invitations to events or tickets to various events.

5. Implications

Legal

These are contained in the report.

Financial

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Equality Impact Assessment

There are no equality implications arising directly from this report.

Background papers:

(Insert details here)

Final Report Clearance

Signed by

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Director of Corporate Resources

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Date

Received by

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Head of Democratic Services

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Date

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