

Standards Committee

Agenda

Date: Monday, 26th September, 2011
Time: 2.00 pm
Venue: Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach
CW11 1HZ

The agenda is divided into 2 parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and at the foot of each report.

PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT

1. **Apologies for Absence**

2. **Declarations of Interest**

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests in any item on the agenda

3. **Public Speaking Time/Open Session**

In accordance with Procedure Rules Nos.11 and 35 a total period of 10 minutes is allocated for members of the public to address the Committee on any matter relevant to the work of the Committee.

Individual members of the public may speak for up to 5 minutes but the Chairman will decide how the period of time allocated for public speaking will be apportioned where there are a number of speakers.

Members of the public wishing to ask a question at the meeting should provide at least three clear working days' notice in writing and should include the question with that notice. This will enable an informed answer to be given. It is not required to give notice of the intention to make use of public speaking provision, however, as a matter of courtesy, a period of 24 hours notice is encouraged.

Please contact
E-Mail:

Diane Moulson on 01270 686476
diane.moulson@cheshireeast.gov.uk any apologies or requests for further information or to give notice of a question to be asked by a member of the public

4. **Minutes of Previous meetings** (Pages 1 - 10)

To approve the Minutes of the meetings held on 28 March 2011 and 25 July 2011.

5. **Future of Local Standards Regime** (Pages 11 - 16)

On 5 August 2011, the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Standards Committee wrote to the political Group Leaders on Cheshire East Council enclosing a discussion paper on the future of local Standards Committees which sought elected Members views.

The response of the Conservative Group is attached; responses from the Labour Group, Independents and Liberal Democrat Groups will be reported orally at the meeting.

6. **Standards Regime and Localism Bill: Dealing with Complaints under any Voluntary Code of Conduct** (Pages 17 - 34)

The report of the Monitoring Report/Borough Solicitor outlines alternative procedures for the determination of future complaints following the abolition of the current Standards regime, which the Committee is invited to debate.

7. **Register of Members' Interests**

To receive an oral report from the Monitoring Officer/Borough Solicitor on the present position with respect to Members' Register of Interests.