

M M I N U T E S

meeting: **STANDARDS COMMITTEE (ASSESSMENT
SUB-COMMITTEE)**

date: **21 APRIL 2011**

PRESENT:-

Councillors Gwinnett and Turner

Mr K R Aithal and Mr R C Tyler-Morris (Independent Members)

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:-

M Webb - Group Manager (Corporate & Commercial
Services) - Solicitor

L Banbury - Democratic Support Officer

Wolverhampton
City Council



PART I – OPEN ITEMS

Election of Chairman

- 73 Resolved:-
That Mr K R Aithal be elected as Chairman for this meeting

Declarations of Interest

- 74 No interests were declared.

Exclusion of Press and Public

- 75 Resolved:-
That in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from consideration of the items of business in Part II of the Agenda, on the grounds that in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, exempt information falling within paragraph 7c of Schedule 12A to the Act (information presented to a Standards Committee following written allegation under section 58 of the Local Government Act 2000) is likely to be disclosed.

PART II – EXEMPT ITEMS

Report of an Investigation into a Complaint under the Members' Code of Conduct (Appendix 1/34)

The Group Manager presented a report, which sought a decision from the Sub-Committee as to whether any action should be taken in connection with a complaint received that a Member of the Council had failed to follow the Members' Code of Conduct and, if so, the nature of the action. The Officer advised that, as the Councillor's residence was outside the zone for neighbour consultation in regard to the planning application which was the subject of the complaint, there was no obligation to declare a prejudicial interest. Members were of the belief, however, that it would have been more appropriate for the Councillor to declare a prejudicial interest and to withdraw from the meeting in view of the close proximity of his home to the address of the planning application, in order to avoid potential problems of the nature of this complaint.

The Sub-Committee agreed that this matter could be concluded by way of training in regard to the declaration of interests, specifically in relation to planning matters, It was, therefore:-

- 76 Resolved:-
(a) That in-house training be provided for Councillor Yardley in regard to the declaration of Members' Interests and specifically those relating to planning applications.

(b) That the training be extended to all Members of the Planning Committee and that attendance at such training be made compulsory.