

# MINUTES

meeting: **STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

date: **16 JUNE 2011**

**PRESENT:-**

Councillors O'Neill, Mrs Samuels, Turner and Wynne  
Mr R Aithal, Mr G W Hurd and Mr R C Tyler-Morris (Independent Members)

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:-**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Gwinnett, Councillor T Singh, Mr Harris, Mr Lee and Mr Parker

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:-**

Delivery Directorate

S Kembrey	-	Assistant Director, Governance (Monitoring Officer)
L Banbury	-	Democratic Support Officer
M Costello	-	Constitution Review Project Manager
F Davis	-	Group Manager (Advocacy Services)

**Wolverhampton**  
City Council



**Election of Vice Chair**

- 1 Resolved:-  
That Mr G W Hurd be elected as Vice-Chair of this Committee for the ensuing municipal year.

In the absence of Mr Parker, Mr Hurd assumed the Chair for the meeting

**Declarations of Interest**

- 2 No interests were declared.

**Minutes**

- 3 Resolved:-  
(a) That the minutes of the meeting held on 4 May 2011 be approved as a correct record.  
  
(b) That the minutes of the meeting of the Assessment Sub-Committee held on 21 April 2011 be approved as a correct record and adopted.

**Assessment Sub-Committee**

- 4 Pursuant to resolution 76, the Democratic Support Officer advised that the complainant had requested that the decision of the Assessment Sub-Committee be reviewed. In accordance with the Council's Constitution, a meeting of the Review Sub-Committee would be convened to consider the matter by 8 August 2011.

**Schedule of Outstanding Minutes (Appendix 8)**

The Democratic Support Officer submitted a report, which set out a schedule of outstanding minutes, together with an indication as to when it was expected that reports on individual items would be presented for consideration.

In regard to the request for consideration to be given to the establishment of an appropriate method for measuring the satisfaction of those involved in allegations of misconduct, the Monitoring Officer advised that consultation would take place with individuals who had been through the system and a report presented to the next meeting.

- 5 Resolved:-  
That the report be received.

**Dates and Times of Meetings**

- 6 It was noted that meetings would be held at 1400 hours as follows during the ensuing municipal year:-

28 July 2011 (Joint meeting with Audit Committee, followed by

Standards Committee)  
8 September 2011  
17 November 2011  
12 January 2012  
15 March 2012  
19 April 2012

**Revision of the Constitution 2011/2012 – Cabinet Portfolio Responsibilities and Financial Procedure Rules (Appendix 9)**

The Monitoring Officer presented a report, which sought approval to amendments to the Council's Constitution, which were consequential to new Cabinet portfolio responsibilities approved at Annual Council on 18 May 2011, and amendments to the Council's Financial Procedure Rules to reflect the outcome of recent 'systems thinking' reviews of working practices in Payroll/Human Resources and as a consequence of the recent senior management restructure. Revised appendices were circulated at the meeting, which took on board recommendations made by the Special Advisory Group.

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Resolved:-

(a) That the proposed amendments to the Financial Procedure Rules, as detailed in the report, be endorsed and recommended to full Council for approval.

(b) That the amendments to the responsibilities for the Cabinet Portfolios, as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report, be recommended for approval by full Council, subject to:-

1. delegation 7.4 to Cabinet (3/5) being amended to read, 'to be responsible for transport services, cleaning, catering, building services and facilities management, street lighting services, highway maintenance services and parking services';
2. delegation 12.1 to the Cabinet (Resources) Panel (3/16) being amended to read, 'to be responsible for the Civic Centre and Associated buildings';
3. delegation 2.3 (3/19) being amended to read, 'Current and future economic trends for the City and the measures necessary to promote the industrial, commercial and cultural well being of the City, and
4. further discussion between the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Prosperity, and the Cabinet Member for Health and Well Being and the Interim Strategic Director for Education and Enterprise on the Environmental Protection Lead responsibility being passed to the Cabinet Member for Health and Well Being.

(c) That authority be delegated to the Assistant Director (Governance), in consultation with the Chair of the Special Advisory Group and the Chair of the Standards Committee, to determine 4 above and to make any minor drafting amendments resulting from changes in other parts of the Constitution or in external organisations to ensure consistency

**Comprehensive Review of the Constitution – Project Plan  
(Appendix 10)**

The Constitution Review Project Manager presented a report, which outlined the project details for the comprehensive review of the Council's Constitution.

- 8 Resolved:-  
That the scope of the comprehensive review of the Council's Constitution and governance arrangements be approved.

**Honorary Alderman – Conferment of Title (Appendix 11)**

The Democratic Support Officer presented a report, which recommended that an extraordinary meeting of the Council be convened to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on former Councillor Surjan Singh Duhra.

- 9 Resolved:-  
That an extraordinary meeting of Council be convened on 13 July 2011 to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on former Councillor Surjan Singh Duhra.

**Honorary Alderman – Conferment of Title (Appendix 12)**

The Democratic Support Officer presented a report, which recommended that an extraordinary meeting of the Council be convened to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on former Councillor Frank Docherty.

- 10 Resolved:-  
That an extraordinary meeting of Council be convened on 13 July 2011 to confer the title of Honorary Alderman on former Councillor Frank Docherty.