

MINUTES

meeting: **STANDARDS ASSESSMENT SUB-COMMITTEE**

date: **7 FEBRUARY 2012**

PRESENT:-

Mr G W Hurd (Chair and Independent Member)
Mr J Harris (Independent Member)
Councillor P O'Neill

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:-

Delivery Directorate

L Banbury	-	Democratic Support Officer
M Webb	-	Group Manager (Corporate and Commercial Services)

Wolverhampton
City Council



Declarations of Interest

52 No interests were declared.

Exclusion of Press and Public

53 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 7a of Schedule 12A to the Act (information presented to a Standards Committee under section 58 of the local Government Act 2000) is likely to be disclosed.

Complaint under the Members' Code of Conduct (Appendix 28)

A report was presented, which outlined the reasons why the Monitoring Officer had been unable to comply with the recommendation of the Sub-Committee held on 22 December 2011 in regard to mediation/conciliation of the complaint and the request of the complainant for the matter to be reconsidered. The report also sought to determine whether any further/alternative action should be undertaken.

The Sub-Committee received advice from the City Council's Solicitor regarding the options open to them in determining the matter and specifically in respect of the Chair's suggestion for a two part recommendation.

The Sub-Committee:-

54 Resolved:-

That having carefully considered the matter, refers the complaint to the Monitoring Officer in order to:-

1. Pursue again the chance of mediation or conciliation, as the best possible way forward, in the interests of future working relationships and for the good of the Council. Alternatively, if this course of action proves impossible:-
2. Carry out an investigation, which will include contacting the witnesses named in the complainant's letter of complaint dated 24 November 2011.