

## City of Durham

At a Special Meeting of the **STANDARDS COMMITTEE** held in the Town Hall, Durham, on Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2007, at 5.30 p.m.

**Present:** Mrs T. Naples (in the Chair)  
and Councillors McDonnell and Moderate (City Council Members)  
and Mr D. Hollingworth (Independent Member).

### **537. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Gibbon and Simpson, Parish Councillor Beswick and MR B.R.J. Ingleby.

#### **Report of Monitoring Officer**

### **538. REVISED MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERS**

The Government published at the end of January, 2007, a consultation paper seeking views on their draft revised Model Code of Conduct for local authority members. Responses were requested by not later than 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2007. The intention of the amendments was to make the Code more effective and proportionate, with a move towards a more locally based decision making regime, of the investigation and determination of all but the most serious of misconduct allegations. The role of the Standards Board for England in future would be at the centre of the revised regime, with a new strategic, regulatory role, to ensure consistency of standards.

A copy of the consultation paper containing a draft of the Statutory Instrument to amend the Code of Conduct was circulated, and the Monitoring Officer highlighted the key points of the Order.

**Resolved:** That the City Council's response to the Consultation Paper, as discussed, be forwarded to the Department for Communities and Local Government.

The meeting terminated at 6.35 p.m.

Chairman