

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Thursday,
6 April 2006
1.00 p.m.

Council Chamber,
Council Offices, Spennymoor

AGENDA and REPORTS



AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

2. MINUTES

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 9th February 2006. (Pages 1 - 6)

3. AUDIT COMMISSION PRESENTATION

To receive a presentation from C. Andrew, Audit Commission on the links between Standards of Conduct, High Levels of Performance and the Comprehensive Performance Assessment.

4. ARRANGEMENTS FOR REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION

To consider the attached report of the Chief Executive Officer. (Pages 7 - 22)

5. PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CODE OF CONDUCT

To consider the attached report of the Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer. (Pages 23 - 26)

6. PROPOSALS FOR AN INDEPENDENT MEMBER FORUM

To consider the attached report of the Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer. (Pages 27 - 30)

7. STANDARDS TRAINING UPDATE

To receive an oral report from the Solicitor to the Council and Monitoring Officer and, in particular, to note:

- Future training arrangements
- A review of the Standards Training Event for Members – 4th April 2006
- To note the date of the Annual Standards Board Conference – Birmingham – 16th/17th October 2006.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To be notified or otherwise agreed at Annual Council.

9. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT

Members are respectfully requested to give the Chief Executive Officer notice of items they would wish to raise under the heading not later than 12 noon on the day preceding the meeting, in order that consultation may take place with the Chairman who will determine whether the item will be accepted.

To note that a special meeting may be required to be held to discuss proposals for changes to the Council's Committees, which would necessitate changes to the Constitution.

Council Offices
SPENNYMOOR
29th March 2006

Councillor L. Petterson (Chairman)
Councillors Mrs. B. Graham, A. Gray, Mrs. L. Hovvels, G.M.R. Howe and J. Wayman J.P

Councillor J. Marr (Spennymoor Town Council)
Mr. I. Jamieson (Independent Member)

Background Documents

Monitoring Officer's advice issued since previous meeting:

MO Series

MO72 Important Changes: Member Training
MO73 Issue of the Parish Toolkit
MO74 Town and Parish Standard Issue No. 6
MO75 Attendance at Council Committees: Advice from the Deputy
Monitoring Officer

MO/SBC Series

MO/SBC/10 Re-issue of Advice: Records Management: Retention
Guidelines for Local Authorities

MO/SBC/CONS Series

MO/SBC/CONS11 Access to Information – Changes with effect from the 1st
March 2006
MO/SBC/CONS12 Constitutional Update following Council Meeting – 24th
February 2006

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Any person wishing to exercise the right of inspection in relation to this Agenda and associated papers should contact
Miss. S. Billingham, Spennymoor 816166, Ext 4240, sbillingham@sedgefield.gov.uk