

Standards Committee

7 September 2012



Openness and Transparency on Personal Interests

Report of Colette Longbottom, Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Purpose of the Report

1. To invite members to note the Department for Communities and Local Government's ("DCLG") Guide for Councillors on Openness and Transparency on Personal Interests.

Background

2. DCLG has produced a guide on personal interests which gives information to councillors about how to be open and transparent about their personal interests. The guide is attached at Appendix 2. The guide includes information about what personal interests should be entered on the Council's register of interests and who can see that information, what pecuniary interests are and what that means in relation to participation and voting in Council business, what happens if the rules aren't followed in relation to disclosable pecuniary interests and how dispensations can be applied for.
3. The guide has been circulated to all County Councillors and to Parish and Town Council clerks for distribution to their members.

Recommendations and Reasons

4. Standards Committee is requested to note the content of this report.

Contact: Clare Burrows Tel: (03000) 260548