

**ARTICLE 9 – GOVERNANCE COMMITTEES****9.1 GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

- 9.1.1 In accordance with Article 15 the General Purposes Committee has authority to consider proposals for amending the constitution and making recommendations to full Council.

**9.2 CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE**

- 9.2.1 Members of the Executive; and Political Group Leaders and Whips from the administration and the major opposition Group are precluded from being members of the Corporate Governance and Audit Committee.
- 9.2.2 The Chair of Standards Committee will be a non voting co-opted member of the Committee

**9.3 STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

The Council meeting will establish a Standards Committee.

**9.3.1 Membership**

The Standards Committee will be composed of:

- (a) Three Councillors other than the leader, being representatives of the three largest political groups;
- (b) A further four Councillors, with at least one being a representative from a political group not being one of the three largest
- (c) four people who are not Councillors or officers of the Council or any other body having a standards committee (an Independent Member)<sup>1</sup>; and
- (d) three Members of a Parish Council wholly or mainly in the Council's area (a Parish Member).<sup>2</sup>

**9.3.2 Independent Members**

Independent Members will be entitled to vote at meetings. An Independent Member shall not be appointed to serve more than two terms.

**9.3.4 Parish Members**

A Parish Member must be present when matters relating to Parish Councils or their Members are being considered. The Parish Member is entitled to vote.

---

<sup>1</sup> Appointment of a new Independent Member to the Standards Committee will be made by Full Council upon the recommendation of a panel. The Panel will include the Assistant Chief Executive (Corporate Governance) and the Chair of the Standards Committee.

<sup>2</sup> Whilst their term of office continues, Parish Members will remain Members of the Standards Committee unless at any such time they cease to be Members of their Parish Council (i.e. they resign, are disqualified or are not re-elected or re-appointed to the Parish Council.)

## Article 9 - Governance Committees

### 9.3.5 Parish Councils Sub-Committee

The Standards Committee may appoint a sub-committee to exercise the general functions set out in Article 9.3 below in relation to parishes. The sub-committee will include at least one Independent Member and one Parish Member.

### 9.3.6 Assessment Sub-Committee

The Standards Committee shall appoint an Assessment Sub-Committee to exercise the function of assessing allegations of misconduct made against Members and determining whether the allegations should be referred to the Monitoring Officer for investigation or other action.<sup>3</sup> The sub-committee membership will consist of one Independent Member, two Leeds City Council Members and one Town or Parish Council Member<sup>4</sup>.

### 9.3.7 Review Sub-Committee

The Standards Committee shall appoint a Review Sub-Committee to exercise the function of reviewing a decision made by the Assessment Sub-Committee that an allegation of misconduct should not be investigated.<sup>5</sup> The Sub-Committee membership will consist of one Independent Member, two Leeds City Council Members and one Town or Parish Council Member<sup>6</sup>.

### 9.3.8 Chairing the Committee

The Chair of the Committee will be appointed from the Independent Members appointed to it.<sup>7</sup>

### 9.3.9 Chairing the Assessment Sub-Committee

The Chair of the Assessment Sub-Committee will be appointed from the Independent Members appointed to the Standards Committee.<sup>8</sup>

### 9.3.10 Chairing the Review Sub-Committee

The Chair of the Review Sub-Committee will be appointed from the Independent Members appointed to the Standards Committee<sup>9</sup>

### 9.3.11 FUNCTIONS

The general functions of the Standards Committee are:

- (a) promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct by Members and co-opted members; and
- (b) assisting Members and co-opted members to observe the Code of Conduct.

---

<sup>3</sup> Regulation 6, Standards Committee (England) Regulations 2008 No.1085/2008

<sup>4</sup> The Town/ Parish Council Member only need attend if the matters being discussed by the Sub-Committee involve a Town/Parish Council Member.

<sup>5</sup> Regulation 6, Standards Committee (England) Regulations 2008 No.1085/2008

<sup>6</sup> The Town/ Parish Council Member only need attend if the matters being discussed by the Sub-Committee involve a Town/Parish Council Member.

<sup>7</sup> Section 53(4) Local Government Act 2000

<sup>8</sup> Regulation 6, Standards Committee (England) Regulations 2008 No.1085/2008

<sup>9</sup> Regulation 6, Standards Committee (England) Regulations 2008 No.1085/2008

- (c) appointing sub-committees to assess written allegations of misconduct made against Members to determine if they should be investigated, and deal with any reviews of those decisions .
- (d) determining allegations of misconduct made against Members.

**9.3.12 Terms of Reference**

The Terms of Reference for the Standards Committee, the Assessment Sub-Committee and the Review Sub-Committee are set out in Part 3, Section 2B of the Constitution.