

STANDARDS AND CONDUCT COMMITTEE

Meeting to be held in Civic Hall on
Friday, 7th March, 2014
at 1.30 pm

MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

B Atha	C Campbell	P Harrand	B Gettings
J Harper			
E Nash (Chair)			
B Selby			

In attendance

Cllr. Paul Cook (Parish representative)
Gordon Tollefson – Independent Person

A G E N D A

Item No	Ward	Item Not Open		Page No
1			<p>APPEALS AGAINST REFUSAL OF INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS</p> <p>To consider any appeals in accordance with Procedure Rule 15.2 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules (in the event of an appeal the press and public will be excluded).</p> <p>(*In accordance with Procedure Rule 15.2, written notice of an appeal must be received by the Head of Governance Services at least 24 hours before the meeting)</p>	
2			<p>EXEMPT INFORMATION - POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To highlight reports or appendices which officers have identified as containing exempt information, and where officers consider that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, for the reasons outlined in the report. 2. To consider whether or not to accept the officers recommendation in respect of the above information. 3. If so, to formally pass the following resolution:- <p style="margin-left: 40px;">RESOLVED – That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following parts of the agenda designated as containing exempt information on the grounds that it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press and public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information, as follows:-</p> 	

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3			<p>LATE ITEMS</p> <p>To identify items which have been admitted to the agenda by the Chair for consideration.</p> <p>(The special circumstances shall be specified in the minutes.)</p>	
4			<p>DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS</p> <p>To disclose or draw attention to any disclosable pecuniary interests for the purposes of Section 31 of the Localism Act 2011 and paragraphs 13-18 of the Members' Code of Conduct. Also to declare any other significant interests which the Member wishes to declare in the public interest, in accordance with paragraphs 19-20 of the Members' Code of Conduct.</p>	
5			<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>To receive any apologies for absence from the meeting.</p>	
6			<p>MINUTES - 29TH NOVEMBER 2013</p> <p>To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 29th November 2013.</p>	1 - 4
7			<p>UPDATE REPORT</p> <p>To receive a report of the City Solicitor to present the Standards and Conduct Committee with a summary of the complaints submitted to Leeds City Council regarding potential breaches of the Members' Code of Conduct since the last meeting of the Committee. This includes complaints against Leeds City Councillors and about Parish and Town Councillors in the Leeds area.</p> <p>(Report attached)</p>	5 - 8

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8			<p>DEFAMATION AND QUALIFIED PRIVILEGE</p> <p>To receive a report of the City Solicitor which provides an overview of the potential use of the defence of qualified privilege in any proceedings against a Member in relation to a claim of defamation. The report also considers the Council's indemnity for Members and officers in so far as it extends to the defence of an allegation of defamation.</p> <p>(Report attached)</p>	9 - 14
9			<p>ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STANDARDS AND CONDUCT COMMITTEE</p> <p>To receive a report of the City Solicitor which presents the draft annual report of the Standards and Conduct Committee. Members are asked to consider whether to refer the report to full Council for consideration so that full Council can receive assurances as to how the Authorities duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct (by Members and co-opted Members of the Council) is being discharged.</p> <p>(Report attached)</p>	15 - 22