

**MINUTES  
STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**Thursday 19 March 2026**

Councillor David Brocklebank (Chair)

Councillor Paul Feeney	Councillor Clive Towsey-Hinton
Councillor Andrew Ellwood	Councillor Russell Whiting
Councillor Andrew Meads	Councillor Darren Maltby
Councillor Martin Smith	Louise Kopyrko
	Mr J.R. Baggaley

Officers in Attendance: F Whyley, N Osei and L Squires

**38 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS.**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Michael Adams and Rosalie Hawks, with Councillor Darren Maltby acting as substitute for Councillor Adams.

**39 TO APPROVE, AS A CORRECT RECORD, THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23/10/2025**

**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the above meeting, having been circulated, be approved as a correct record.

**40 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.**

Councillor Meads declared an interest in item 7 of the agenda.

**41 SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDANCE**

The report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer was circulated prior to the meeting, to seek approval of the Social Media Guidance for Councillors.

**RESOLVED:**

That:

- 1) Members approve the Social Media Guidance at Appendix 1.

**42 UPDATE ON STANDARDS REGIME**

The report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer was circulated prior to the meeting, to update members on the Government's response to a consultation on changes to the Standards Regime.

**RESOLVED:**

That:

- 1) Members note the content of the report.

**43 RECRUITMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSONS**

The report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer was circulated prior to the meeting, to seek approval to recommend to Council the appointment of the current Independent Person David Walsh and Reserve Independent Person John Baggaley for a further two - year term or until the authority is dissolved through Local Government Reorganisation, whichever is sooner.

**RESOLVED:**

That:

- 1) Members recommend to Council the appointment of David Walsh as Independent Person and John Baggaley as Reserve Independent Person for a further 2 year term or until the dissolution of the authority following Local Government Reorganisation.

**44 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public and press will be excluded from the meeting during consideration of item 10 on the grounds that the report involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

**45 UPDATE ON CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINTS**

The report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer was circulated prior to the meeting, to inform members of the Standards Committee of complaints received between 23 October 2025 and 19 March 2026.

Councillor Smith asked whether Councillor Wheeler had made an apology in regard to his Code of Conduct complaint and whether any training had been provided.

The Deputy Chief Executive stated that an apology had been made, and Councillor Wheeler will undertake training.

**RESOLVED:**

That:

- 1) The report be noted.

**46 ANY OTHER ITEM WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT.**

None.

The meeting finished at 6.24 pm

Signed by Chair:  
Date: