

Report to Standards Committee

Subject: Openness and Transparency on personal interests: A guide for Councillors - updated March 2013

Date: 13 June 2013

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1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To inform members of the Standards Committee that the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) has issued an updated Guide for Councillors on Openness and Transparency on Personal Interests.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At the beginning of August 2012, DCLG published a guide for councillors on openness and transparency on personal interests. This guide was reported to the Standards Committee in September 2012 and circulated to all Borough Councillors and Parish Council Clerks (for circulation to Parish Councillors).
- 2.2 DCLG issued updated guidance in March 2013 under the same title as before which includes an additional paragraph confirming that no dispensation is needed for a member with a liability to pay council tax to take part in the business of setting the council tax or precept or local arrangements for council tax support. This is to
- 2.3 A copy of the updated guide is attached at Appendix 1.

3. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Standards Committee notes the contents of the updated guide.