Norfolk County Council
at your service

STANDARDS CONSIDERATION AND HEARING SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22 DECEMBER 2011
COUNTY HALL at 10.00 am

Present:-

Mr R Bearman
Mrs L Cuneen
Mr S Revell

Also Present:

Ms V McNeill –Head of Law and Monitoring Officer
Mrs S Farrell – Democratic Support Manager
Mr K Hounsome – Independent Investigator

1. **Apologies:-**

There were none.

2. **Election of Chairman**

It was proposed and seconded that Mr Revell be elected Chairman and members accordingly:

RESOLVED that Mr Revell be elected Chairman for this Sub-Committee meeting.

3. **Declaration of Interests**

There were no declarations of interest.

4. **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 November 2011 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

5. **Exclusion of the Public**

The meeting was advised that, with regard to agenda item 5, there was no requirement to consider the item under the public interest test as it was not a qualified exemption but an absolute exemption under Section 63 of the Local Government Act 2000 and the information contained in the report was confidential.

There were no members of the public present to be excluded from the meeting.

6.   Excluded Minutes

The excluded minutes of the meeting held on 9 November 2011 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

7.   Agenda Item 5, Consideration of Investigator's Report

7.1   The Chairman and Sub-Committee members considered the Investigator's report and listened to the relevant extract from the sound recording of the Council meeting on 26 September 2011. After some discussion the Sub-Committee

RESOLVED:

That the Sub Committee were unconvinced that the conduct fell short of the threshold for a breach of the Code of Conduct, having regard to the Code of Conduct itself and to the Standards for England guidance, and therefore that the Investigator's finding and conclusion be rejected and the Sub-Committee requested the Monitoring Officer to make arrangements for a hearing of the complaint in front of the Standards Committee.

The meeting finished at 11:35 pm

CHAIRMAN