



STANDARDS CONSIDERATION AND HEARING SUB-COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6 APRIL 2011
COUNTY HALL at 4.15 pm**

Present:-

Mr R Bearman
Mr P Gibbs
Mr S Revell

Also Present:

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

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. Exclusion of the Public

The meeting was advised that, with regard to agenda item 5, the Sub-Committee needed to consider whether to exclude the public for the consideration of this report. The Head of Law and Monitoring Officer presented the Public Interest Test, as required by the 2006 Access to Information Regulations, for the consideration of the Sub-Committee as follows:

Agenda Item 5, Consideration of Investigator's Report

- 4.1 The Head of Law and Monitoring Officer advised that only the Sub-Committee members and the parties involved in this complaint had received a copy of the Investigator's report, which related to a matter of whether certain documentation was confidential. If published, the release of the information could further impact on the

complainant who had reported this matter to the Monitoring Officer and could dissuade others from reporting alleged breaches of confidentiality.

- 4.3 The Chairman and Sub-Committee members, having duly considered whether to release this information, concurred with this view and it was:

RESOLVED:

The Sub-Committee agreed that agenda item 5 be excluded from public disclosure by virtue of paragraph 7C of Part 1 of Schedule 12A (as extended by the Standards Committee (England) Regulations 2008) to the Local Government Act 1972 and the tests applied above, confirming that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

5. Consideration of Investigator's Report

The Head of Law and Monitoring Officer presented the annexed report (5), containing exempt information. Following discussion, the Sub-Committee

RESOLVED

That the recommendations contained in the exempt report be accepted.

The meeting finished at 16:45 pm

CHAIRMAN