

17 **Standards Committee – Current Terms of Reference**

- a) This is made up of 5 Independent Members, 3 Councillors and 1 Community/Town Councillor. By virtue of Section 53 (10) of the Local Government Act 2000 a Standards Committee and the Standards Committees (Wales) Regulations 2001, the Standards Committee is not required to comply with Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (duty to allocate to Political Groups).
- b) To promote and maintain high standards of conduct and probity in respect of Councillors & Co-opted Members of the Authority and Community / Town Councillors within the area of the City and County of Swansea.
- c) To assist Members of the Authority and Community / Town Councils to observe their Authority's Code of Conduct.
- d) To advise the Authority and Community / Town Councils on the adoption, monitoring and review of their Code of Conduct.
- e) To advise and train Members on matters relating to the Code of Conduct.
- f) To grant dispensations to Members in accordance with the Standards Committees (Grant of dispensations) (Wales) Regulations 2001 and Section 81 (5) of the Local Government Act 2000.
- g) To consider allegations of breaches of Code of Conduct made against Members.
- h) To oversee the Authority's protocol on Member and Officer working relationships.
- i) To oversee and monitor the Authority's Whistle Blowing Policy and general confidential reporting Procedures.
- j) To provide training to Members on conduct and ethical standards issues and any developments relevant to these areas.
- k) To specifically consider and deal with less serious allegations of impropriety concerning Members.
- l) To oversee the register of Members interests required under Section 81(1) of the Local Government Act 2000.
- m) To consider all appeals relating to the Dealing with Unreasonable or Unacceptable Behaviour by Members of the Public Policy.

- n) To consider any other matters placed before the Committee by the Monitoring Officer.
- o) No business shall be transacted at a meeting of a standards committee, unless:
 - i) at least three members are present, including the chairperson; and
 - ii) at least half the members present (including the chairperson) are independent members
- p) Quorum. A meeting of the Standards Committee shall only be quorate when:
 - i) At least 3 members are present, including the chairperson and
 - ii) At least half the members present (including the chairperson) are independent members.

(Standards Committee (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2006)

Note:

Members refers to Councillors and Co-Opted Members of the City and County of Swansea and Community / Town Councillors within the boundaries of the City and County of Swansea.)