

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

**MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, SOUTHPORT
ON 18 NOVEMBER 2010**

PRESENT: Councillor Mr. N. Edwards (in the Chair)
Councillor Mr Edward Davies (Vice-Chair)

Councillors Blackburn, Brady, Hill, Howe,
Mr. J. Fraser and
Parish Councillor Mrs Beryl O'Brien

7. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Fairclough and Papworth and Parish Councillor Warren.

8. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

9. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 15 July 2010 be confirmed as a correct record.

10. LOCAL GOVERNMENT OMBUDSMAN'S ANNUAL LETTER AND REPORT 2009/10

The Committee considered the report of the Acting Head of Corporate Legal Services which incorporated a copy of the Local Government Ombudsman's Annual Letter and Report detailing the complaints about the Council submitted to the Ombudsman during 2009/10.

RESOLVED:

That the Local Ombudsman's Annual Letter and Report be noted.

11. ABOLITION OF STANDARDS FOR ENGLAND

The Acting Head of Corporate Legal Services gave a presentation on the proposals announced by the Government for the publication of a Decentralisation and Location Bill in Autumn which would include the abolition of the Standards Board regime, the implementation of a revised Code of Conduct for Elected Members and the Publication of Members Interests.

He reported that in anticipation of the proposed Bill, the details of Members Financial and Other Interests were being inputted on to the Council's Committee Management System and published on the Council's website.

He also reported on the proposals set out in the Bribery Act 2010 which would come into effect in April 2011.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the presentation be noted; and
- (2) the Acting Head of Legal Services submit a detailed report on the proposals in the Decentralisation and Localism Bill following the publication of the Bill in due course.