

Meeting:	Council
Date:	Wednesday 28 November 2001
Subject:	Standards Committee - Appointments and Procedures
Report of:	Councillor Tunwell on behalf of the Standards Committee.
<p>The Council is asked to consider the Standards Committee minute and resolutions from the meeting held on 30 October 2001. These are set out below.</p> <p>The proposed amended terms of reference for the Council's Standards Committee is attached at Appendix 1.</p> <p>Current functions of the Standards Committee which it is proposed will no longer be within the Committee's remit are set out in Appendix 2, together with proposals for the future discharge of these functions.</p> <p>A copy of the report was circulated to all Members with the Standards Committee agenda (item 9) to which reference should be made. Further copies are available on request – please see end of this report.</p> <p>Members are asked to note that in approving the minute below, the Standards Committee on 19 November expressed the view that the Council should be minded to appoint the independent member as the Chairman of the re-constituted Standards Committee.</p>	
<p><u>The Council is recommended to:-</u></p> <p>(1) Approve the recommendations of the Standards Committee in relation to revised terms of reference and membership and the recruitment of an independent member.</p> <p>(2) Agree the future arrangements for the discharge of functions no longer to be the formal responsibility of the Standards Committee as detailed in Appendix 2 to this report and authorise the Head of Democratic Services to amend the Council's Constitution and Delegation Scheme accordingly.</p>	
<p>Minute Extract</p> <p>STANDARDS COMMITTEE – 30 October 2001</p>	
*5.	<p>STANDARDS COMMITTEES – APPOINTMENTS AND PROCEDURES. The Committee considered the joint report of the Head of Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer regarding the requirements of The Relevant Authorities (Standards Committees) Regulations 2001 which came into force on 28 August 2001.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Council be recommended to:</p> <p>(1) Approve the reduction of the current membership of the Standards Committee to four members, including one independent member.</p> <p>(2) Approve the revised terms of reference set out in the appendix</p>

<p>For a copy of the report please contact Democratic Services at the Town Hall, Eastbourne, BN21 4UG. Tel. (01323) 415022.</p> <p>E.Mail councillors@eastbourne.gov.uk</p> <p>For further information please contact either:-</p> <p>Mark Reynard, Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer at the Town Hall, Grove Road, Eastbourne. Tel. (01323) 415011 (or internally on extension 5011), or</p> <p>Peter Finnis, Head of Democratic Services Officer at the Town Hall, Grove Road, Eastbourne. Tel. (01323) 415003 (or internally on extension 5003.).</p>	

(derP:\council\01.11.28\standards terms of reference)

Appendix 1

DRAFT STANDARDS COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Composition (4)

3 Members of the Council who are not Cabinet Members.

Membership to be balanced to political proportions on the Council.

1 independent member as defined in the Local Government Act 2000 and related regulations, and approved by Full Council.

Terms of Reference

General

(1) Promote and maintain high standards of conduct by members and co-opted members of the Council.

(2) Assist members and co-opted members of the Council to observe the authority's code of conduct and protocols.

Monitoring

(3) Monitor the operation of the Council's code of conduct and protocols.

Training

(4) Train or arrange to train members and co-opted members of the Council on matters relating to the Council's code of conduct and protocols.

Special reports

(5) Consider special reports of the Section 151 officer, Chief Auditor and Monitoring Officer.

Recommendations to Full Council

(6) Consider and make recommendations to Full Council where necessary in respect of:

- a) the adoption or revision of the Council’s code of conduct and protocols**
- b) failure by members and co-opted members of the Council to observe the Council’s code of conduct and protocols**
- c) any matters arising from the Committee’s functions in paragraphs (1) to (5) above.**

Appendix 2

PROPOSALS FOR THE DISCHARGE OF FUNCTIONS NO LONGER TO BE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Current Terms of Reference:	Future Arrangements:
(a) Consider and make recommendations to the Full Council where necessary on:-	
1. Civic Protocols.	Remains with the Standards Committee.
2. Members Ethics and Code of Conduct.	Remains with the Standards Committee.
3. Members Allowances.	Report direct to Full Council. See Note 1 below.
4. The Council’s Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.	Report direct to Full Council.
5. The bestowing of honours e.g. Honorary Alderman and Freedom of the Borough.	Report direct to Full Council.
6. Nominations for the election of the Mayor and the appointment of the Deputy Mayor.	Group Leaders to notify the Chief Executive in advance of the Annual meeting of the Council of their intention to make a nomination.
(b) Advise the Council on:-	

1. Matters relating to boundaries, electoral divisions, Parliamentary matters, the wards and polling districts therein and the number of Councillors for the Borough.	Report direct to Full Council. See Note 2 below.
2. The Council's duties in connection with the registration of electors and conduct of elections.	Report direct to Full Council. See Note 2 below.
(c) Appoint representatives to serve on Governing Bodies and other outside organisations.	Delegated to Head of Democratic Services following nomination by and mutual agreement of Group Leaders. Otherwise report to Full Council. See Note 1 below.
(d) Consider and make recommendations to the Full Council where necessary on special reports from the Section 151 Officer, Chief Auditor and Monitoring Officer.	Remains with the Standards Committee.

Note 1 Certain responsibilities are currently (or are proposed to be) delegated to the Head of Democratic Services, in consultation with the Chairman and Opposition Spokesperson of the Standards Committee. These are as follows:-

(a)	Outside Body Vacancies. Head of Democratic Services to make appointments or submit nominations in respect of positions on and elections to Outside Bodies in circumstances where it is expedient to deal with the matter before the next ordinary meeting of the Standards Committee in consultation with the Chairman of that Committee and upon the agreed nomination of the Group Leaders.
(b)	Members Allowances - Appointments to the Independent Remuneration Panel. The Head of Democratic Services in consultation with the Chairman and opposition Spokesperson of this Committee and in liaison with the Group Leaders be authorised to make these and all future appointments to the Panel on such terms and conditions as to the term of office, the allowances and/or expenses to be paid to Panel Members as is considered appropriate and as may otherwise be determined by the Council. (N.B. This delegation is submitted to Council for approval at this meeting)

It is proposed that in future these powers be exercised in consultation with the Group Leaders.

Note 2: Limited delegation arrangements are proposed in respect of certain of these electoral functions. This

matter is dealt with in a separate report to Council following consideration by the special meeting of the Standards Committee on 19 November 2001 (see report 6(h)). They are not affected by the proposed change to the Standards Committee terms of reference.