

**COMMITTEE:** COUNCIL

**DATE:** 20TH MAY 2008

**SUBJECT:** TERMS OF REFERENCE OF STANDARDS COMMITTEE

**REPORT BY:** CHIEF EXECUTIVE (HEAD OF LOCAL DEMOCRACY)

**CONTACT OFFICER:** SANDRA PARADINE 01582 - 546041

**IMPLICATIONS:**

LEGAL	✓	COMMUNITY SAFETY
EQUALITIES		ENVIRONMENT
FINANCIAL		CONSULTATIONS
STAFFING		OTHER

**WARDS AFFECTED: NONE**

**PURPOSE**

1. The purpose of this report is to refer to Council the recommendation of Standards Committee in relation to the introduction on 8<sup>TH</sup> May 2008 of the local assessment of complaints against Members and the subsequent changes to the Committee's terms of reference.

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

2. COUNCIL is recommended to replace Standards Committee's current Terms of Reference with those set out in the right hand column of Appendix A.

## **BACKGROUND**

3. At its meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2008 Standards Committee considered a report of the Head of Legal Services advising them of the changes to the way in which complaints against Members are dealt with under the new Standards Committee (England) Regulations 2008 which came into force on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2008.

## **REPORT**

4. In accordance with the new regulations, Standards Committee at its meeting approved the establishment of procedures and the following Panels to ensure that the local assessment of complaints against members were operated effectively:
  - Local Assessment Panel
  - Local Assessment Review Panel
  - Local Adjudication Panel
5. In order to reflect the changes referred to above Standards Committee resolved:

“That the Council be recommended to replace Standards Committee’s terms of reference with those set out in the right hand column of Appendix G to the report of the Head of Legal Services (Ref: 7).

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

6. The legal implications are as set out in the body of the report and this has been agreed with Richard Stevens in Legal Services on 9 May 2008

## **APPENDIX**

7. Appendix A: Revised Terms of Reference of Standards Committee

## **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, SECTION 100D**

8. Committee Report Ref: SC/5/08/7