



STANDARDS COMMITTEE  
30 November 2009

**Terms of Reference of the General Purposes Sub-Committees**

**PURPOSE OF REPORT:** to decide

**Introduction:**

- 1 Standards Committee is asked to consider and approve the draft terms of reference of the General Purposes Sub-Committees.

**General Purposes Sub-Committees**

- 2 Since June 2008, Standards Committee has delegated the functions of initial assessments of complaints about Member conduct and requests for reviews of initial assessment decisions to its Initial Assessment Sub-Committees and its Review Sub-Committees.
- 3 On 2 October 2009, Standards Committee agreed to delegate further functions to its Sub-Committees: granting dispensations to Members allowing them to speak and vote at a meeting when they have a prejudicial interest; the grant and supervision of exemptions from political restriction; and Determination Hearings into whether a Member has breached the Code of Conduct. The Sub-Committees were to be renamed General Purposes Sub-Committees.
- 4 A draft terms of reference for the two General Purposes Sub-Committees has been annexed to the report. It is proposed that the Assessment and Review Sub-Committees are integrated into the General Purposes Sub-Committees for clarity.

**Conclusions:**

**Financial and value for money implications**

- 5 None

**Equalities Implications**

- 6 None

**Risk Management Implications**

7 None

**Implications for the Council's Priorities or Community Strategy/Local Area Agreement Targets**

8 None

**Recommendations:**

That Standards Committee consider and approve the Terms of Reference for the General Purposes Sub-Committees

**Next steps:**

Council will be asked to amend Article 9 of Part 2 of the Constitution of the Council to include the new Terms of Reference of the Sub-Committees.

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**Sources/background papers:**

The Council's Constitution  
Standards Committee Agenda and Papers, 2 October 2009