

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Standards
Hearing and Determination Committee
held at Surrey Heath House,
Camberley on 16 June 2014**

+ Cllr Valerie White (Chairman)
+ Cllr Wynne Price (Vice Chairman)

+ Cllr Bruce Mansell
+ Cllr Ken Pedder

+ Cllr Pat Tedder

+ Present

Officers in attendance: Karen Limmer, Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer
Rachel Whillis, Democratic Services Officer

01/ST Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 June 2013 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

**Part I
(public)**

02/ST Annual Standards Report 2014

The Committee received the Annual Report of the Monitoring Officer for the 2013/14 municipal year. The Monitoring Officer reported that there had been few matters of concern that year. Three complaints against Members had been received but none had been formally investigated. One complaint had not related to the behaviour of the particular councillor; one had been a private matter; and the third clearly had not involved a breach of the Code.

The Committee was informed that most issues continued to relate to planning matters. The Deepcut Planning Application had been dealt with successfully in relation to standards matters and Members had been active in seeking advice and reporting any lobbying from members of the public.

It was reported that dispensations had been granted in relation to members of the Planning Applications Committee on one occasion.

The Committee was advised that Social Media continued to be an area to monitor, in particular because it was recognised that it was difficult to define what constituted inappropriate behaviour.

The Monitoring Officer emphasised that it was important not to over interpret the Code of Conduct. For example, she advised that in relation to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) concerning sponsorship received, a DPI should only be declared where the matter under consideration related directly to the sponsor.

Resolved that the Annual Report be noted.

Chairman