

# A G E N D A

## Standards Committee

Date: **Friday, 20th October, 2006**

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Time: **3.45 p.m.**

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Place: **The Council Chamber,  
Brockington, 35 Hafod Road,  
Hereford**

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Notes: Please note the **time, date** and **venue** of the meeting.

*For any further information please contact:*

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**County of Herefordshire  
District Council**



# AGENDA

## for the Meeting of the Standards Committee

To: Robert Rogers (Independent Member) (Chairman)  
 Councillors John Edwards and John Stone  
 David Stevens (Independent Member)  
 Richard Gething (Parish and Town Council Representative)  
 John Hardwick (Parish and Town Council Representative)

	Pages
1. <b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> To receive apologies for absence.	
2. <b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b> To receive any declarations of interest by members in respect of items on the Agenda.	
3. <b>MINUTES</b> To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 30 June, 2006.	1 - 8
4. <b>APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATIONS RECEIVED FROM TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS</b> To produce guidance for Town and Parish Councils in respect of applications for dispensations.  <b>Wards: County wide</b>	9 - 10
5. <b>DISPENSATIONS - DRAFT GUIDANCE FOR TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS</b> To note the attached guidance for Town and Parish Councils in respect of applications for dispensations. This version includes revisions suggested by the Standards Committee at its meeting on 30 June 2006. Amendments from HALC are awaited.  <b>Wards: County wide</b>	11 - 14
6. <b>HEARINGS: DRAFT GUIDANCE FOR PARTICIPANTS</b> To consider and approve a draft internal procedure note in respect of the processes relating to Standards Committee Hearings.  <b>Wards: County wide</b>	
<b>DOCUMENT TO FOLLOW</b>	
7. <b>ANNUAL REPORT 2005/06</b> To consider the Standards Committee's Annual Report.  <b>Wards: County wide</b>	

**DOCUMENT TO FOLLOW**

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| <p><b>8. HEREFORDSHIRE CORPORATE GOVERNANCE CODE</b></p> <p>To comment on the Code recently approved by the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee.</p> <p><b>Wards: County wide</b></p>   | <p>15 - 22</p> |
| <p><b>9. STANDARDS BOARD FOR ENGLAND BULLETIN 30</b></p> <p>To consider the attached bulletin which sets out the SBE's proposed approach to monitoring local investigations.</p> <p><b>Wards: County wide</b></p>  | <p>23 - 32</p> |
| <p><b>10. "A QUESTION OF STANDARDS"</b></p> <p>To note the recent publication by the Cornerstone Group, and the Standards Board for England's response to it.</p> <p><b>Wards: County wide</b></p>   | <p>33 - 58</p> |
| <p><b>11. STANDARDS BOARD FOR ENGLAND ANNUAL REVIEW: "DEVOLUTION"</b></p> <p>To note the attached SBE Annual Review.</p> <p><b>Wards: County wide</b></p>  | <p>59 - 70</p> |
| <p><b>12. FIFTH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF STANDARDS COMMITTEES</b></p> <p>To review the Fifth Annual Assembly of Standards Committees, which took place in Birmingham on 16 and 17 October 2006.</p> <p><b>Wards: County wide</b></p>   |                |
| <p><b>13. TRAINING EVENTS</b></p> <p>To receive an oral update from Alan McLaughlin, Head of Legal and Democratic Services in respect of forthcoming training events.</p> <p><b>Wards: County wide</b></p>   |                |
| <p><b>14. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS</b></p> <p>To note that the next meeting of the Standards Committee will be held at <b>2.00 p.m.</b> on <b>Friday 12 January 2007</b> in the <b>Council Chamber</b> at <b>Brockington</b>. Future meeting dates are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Friday 13 April 2007 at 2.00 p.m.</li></ul> <p>To consider the following proposed further meeting dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 06 July 2007 at 2.00 p.m.</li><li>• 19 October 2007 at 2.00 p.m.</li><li>• 18 January 2008 at 2.00 p.m.</li><li>• 25 April 2008 at 2.00 p.m.</li></ul> |                |

**EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

**In the opinion of the Proper Officer, the following item will not be, or is likely not to be, open to the public and press at the time it is considered.**

**RECOMMENDATION:** that under section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12(A) of the Act, as indicated below

**15. DETERMINATIONS BY THE STANDARDS BOARD FOR ENGLAND**

71 - 74

To update the Committee about determinations by the Standards Board for England concerning the county.

**Wards: County wide**

**This item discloses information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person (other than the Authority).**