

# AGENDA

## Standards Committee

Date: **Friday 30 October 2009**

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Time: **3.00 pm**

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Place: **Room 18a, 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:

**Alec Dubberley, Trainee Democratic Services Officer**

Tel: 01432 260088

Email: [adubberley@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:adubberley@herefordshire.gov.uk)

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If you would like help to understand this document, or would like it in another format or language, please call Alec Dubberley, Trainee Democratic Services Officer on 01432 260088 or e-mail [adubberley@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:adubberley@herefordshire.gov.uk) in advance of the meeting.

# Agenda for the Meeting of the Standards Committee

## Membership

### Chairman

**Robert Rogers**

### Independent Member

**Jake Bharier  
Isabel Fox  
Richard Gething  
John Hardwick  
David Stevens  
John Stone  
Beris Williams**

**Independent Member  
Independent Member  
Parish and Town Council Representative  
Parish and Town Council Representative  
Independent Member  
Local Authority Representative  
Local Authority Representative**

## **GUIDANCE ON DECLARING PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS AT MEETINGS**

The Council's Members' Code of Conduct requires Councillors to declare against an Agenda item(s) the nature of an interest and whether the interest is personal or prejudicial. Councillors have to decide first whether or not they have a personal interest in the matter under discussion. They will then have to decide whether that personal interest is also prejudicial.

A personal interest is an interest that affects the Councillor more than most other people in the area. People in the area include those who live, work or have property in the area of the Council. Councillors will also have a personal interest if their partner, relative or a close friend, or an organisation that they or the member works for, is affected more than other people in the area. If they do have a personal interest, they must declare it but can stay and take part and vote in the meeting.

Whether an interest is prejudicial is a matter of judgement for each Councillor. What Councillors have to do is ask themselves whether a member of the public – if he or she knew all the facts – would think that the Councillor's interest was so important that their decision would be affected by it. If a Councillor has a prejudicial interest then they must declare what that interest is. A Councillor who has declared a prejudicial interest at a meeting may nevertheless be able to address that meeting, but only in circumstances where an ordinary member of the public would be also allowed to speak. In such circumstances, the Councillor concerned will have the same opportunity to address the meeting and on the same terms. However, a Councillor exercising their ability to speak in these circumstances must leave the meeting immediately after they have spoken.

## AGENDA

	Pages
<p><b>1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">To receive apologies for absence.</p>	
<p><b>2. APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED MEMBER(S)</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">To consider the appointment of co-opted member(s) for this meeting of the Standards Committee.</p>	
<p><b>3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">To receive any declarations of interest by Members in respect of items on the Agenda.</p>	
<b>EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS</b>	
<p>In the opinion of the Proper Officer, the following items will not be, or are likely not to be, open to the public and press at the time they are considered.</p>	
<p><b>RECOMMENDATION:</b>            that by virtue of regulation 8 of the Standards Committee (England) Regulations 2008, the public be excluded for the following items of business for reasons indicated below</p>	
<p><b>4. LOCAL INVESTIGATION REPORT - COMPLAINT REFERENCE SC0916</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">To consider a report from the investigating officer detailing the results of an investigation undertaken in respect of a complaint made against a Local Authority, Town or Parish Councillor.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><i>(This item contains information which is subject to an obligation of confidentiality)</i></p>	5 - 188
<p><b>5. LOCAL INVESTIGATION REPORT - COMPLAINT REFERENCE SC0917</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">To consider a report from the investigating officer detailing the results of an investigation undertaken in respect of a complaint made against a Local Authority, Town or Parish Councillor.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><i>(This item contains information which is subject to an obligation of confidentiality)</i></p>	189 - 270
<p><b>6. LOCAL INVESTIGATION REPORT - COMPLAINT REFERENCE SC0930</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">To consider a report from the investigating officer detailing the results of an investigation undertaken in respect of a complaint made against a Local Authority, Town or Parish Councillor.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><i>(This item contains information which is subject to an obligation of confidentiality)</i></p>	271 - 376



# **Your Rights to Information and Attendance at Meetings**

## **YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO:-**

- Attend all Council, Cabinet, Committee and Sub-Committee meetings unless the business to be transacted would disclose 'confidential' or 'exempt information'.
- Inspect agenda and public reports at least three clear days before the date of the meeting.
- Inspect minutes of the Council and all Committees and Sub-Committees and written statements of decisions taken by the Cabinet or individual Cabinet Members for up to six years following a meeting.
- Inspect background papers used in the preparation of public reports for a period of up to four years from the date of the meeting. A list of the background papers to a report is given at the end of each report. A background paper is a document on which the officer has relied in writing the report and which otherwise is not available to the public.
- Access to a public register stating the names, addresses and wards of all Councillors with details of the membership of Cabinet and all Committees and Sub-Committees.
- Have a reasonable number of copies of agenda and reports (relating to items to be considered in public) made available to the public attending meetings of the Council, Cabinet, Committees and Sub-Committees.
- Have access to a list specifying those powers on which the Council have delegated decision making to their officers identifying the officers concerned by title.
- Copy any of the documents mentioned above to which you have a right of access, subject to a reasonable charge.
- Access to this summary of your rights as members of the public to attend meetings of the Council, Cabinet, its Committees and Sub-Committees and to inspect and copy documents.
- Access to this summary of your rights as members of the public to attend meetings of the Council, Cabinet, Committees and Sub-Committees and to inspect and copy documents.

**Please Note:**

Agenda and individual reports can be made available in large print. Please contact the officer named on the front cover of this agenda **in advance** of the meeting who will be pleased to deal with your request.

The meeting venue is accessible for visitors in wheelchairs.

A public telephone is available in the reception area.

**Public Transport Links**

- Public transport access can be gained to Brockington via bus route 75.
- The service runs every half hour from the 'Hopper' bus station at the Tesco store in Bewell Street (next to the roundabout junction of Blueschool Street / Victoria Street / Edgar Street).
- The nearest bus-stop to Brockington is located in Old Eign Hill near to its junction with Hafod Road. The return journey can be made from the same bus stop.

If you have any questions about this agenda, how the Council works or would like more information or wish to exercise your rights to access the information described above, you may do so either by telephoning officer named on the front cover of this agenda or by visiting in person during office hours (8.45 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Monday - Thursday and 8.45 a.m. - 4.45 p.m. Friday) at the Council Offices, Brockington, 35 Hafod Road, Hereford.

# **HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL**

**BROCKINGTON, 35 HAFOD ROAD, HEREFORD.**

## **FIRE AND EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE**

In the event of a fire or emergency the alarm bell will ring continuously.

You should vacate the building in an orderly manner through the nearest available fire exit.

You should then proceed to Assembly Point J which is located at the southern entrance to the car park. A check will be undertaken to ensure that those recorded as present have vacated the building following which further instructions will be given.

Please do not allow any items of clothing, etc. to obstruct any of the exits.

Do not delay your vacation of the building by stopping or returning to collect coats or other personal belongings.





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