

INDEPENDENT MEMBERS' FORUM

Report By: Chairman of the Committee

Wards Affected

County-wide

Purpose

1. To review the meeting held at Ludlow on 18 August 2005 and to agree arrangements in respect of the proposed Independent Members' Forum meeting to be held in Herefordshire on Friday 3 February 2006.

Background

2. The Standards Board for England have encouraged the development of regional forums to support independent members of standards committees with their role and responsibilities. A forum has been initiated for the West Mercia region comprising standards committees within Shropshire, Herefordshire and Worcestershire. These forum meetings have proved extremely useful in providing training, development and support to independent members across the region.
3. The last meeting was held in Ludlow on 18 August 2005 and the Chairman and David Stevens were able to attend. The Committee will be updated at its meeting on the outcome of the forum.
4. Herefordshire has agreed to host the next meeting of the Independent Members' Forum currently scheduled to take place on Friday 3 February 2006.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be noted.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- None identified