Merton Council Standards and General Purposes Committee

13 December 2016

Supplementary agenda

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Date: 13 December 2016

COUNCILLOR STEPHEN ALAMBRITIS LEADER OF THE COUNCIL (Labour, Ravensbury Ward)

Cllr Peter McCabe Cllr Agatha Akyigyina Cllr Mike Brunt Cllr Michael Bull Cllr Adam Bush Cllr John Dehaney Cllr Janice Howard Cllr Mary-Jane Jeanes Cllr Ian Munn Cllr Greg Udeh Cllr Martin Whelton Cllr Oonagh Moulton

To the Members of the Standards and General Purposes Committee

I understand you are meeting on 13 December to consider complaints in relation to a Labour Party letter and survey seeking residents' views on council tax, which was distributed in Mitcham & Morden constituency. Although the letter was from the Labour Party, residents were encouraged to send their thoughts back to the council using the council's reply paid address.

I would wish the panel to be aware that the Labour Party, and myself personally, were not cognisant of the rules around use of the council's reply paid address. Nonetheless when this was made clear to me I apologised to the Chief Executive for the oversight and agreed to pay the cost of any replies so that there was no use of council resources.

Mitcham and Morden Labour Party have been invoiced by the council and have paid in full the relevant amount so that there has been no cost to the council. There may be the odd late reply and if so Mitcham and Morden Labour party will pay for these where received.

Best wishes,

Councillor Stephen Alambritis Leader of Merton Council

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