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STANDARDS COMMITTEE

23 OCTOBER 2013

(19.15 - 20.30)

PRESENT: Councillors Peter McCabe (in the Chair), John Dehaney, Janice Howard, Mary-Jane Jeanes, Philip Jones, Ian Munn, Rod Scott and David Williams

Co-opted members Sophie Bowen, Nigel Brotherton and Beverley Huie

Paul Evans (Monitoring Officer), Karin Lane (Head of Information Governance), Neil Milligan (Development Control) and Colin Millar (Democracy Services)

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1)

None

2 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST (Agenda Item 2)

None

3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 JUNE 2013 (Agenda Item 3)

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 18 June are agreed as a correct record.

4 AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION: S106 AGREEMENTS/UNDERTAKINGS - DELEGATION TO OFFICERS (Agenda Item 4)

RESOLVED: That the Committee recommends that the amendment to the constitution is approved.

5 REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT (Agenda Item 5)

RESOLVED: That the committee notes the purposes for which investigations have been authorised under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000.

6 ANNUAL COMPLAINTS REPORT (Agenda Item 6)

Members discussed the report with Karin Lane.

- Members wanted to ensure that where complaints were being upheld action was being taken to address the underlying causes;
- Member enquiries needed to be captured more accurately;
- Ward breakdowns would be available from next year.

The report was otherwise noted.

7 RECEIPT OF GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY BY MEMBERS (Agenda Item 7)

Members asked that the member induction for 2014 should include an element emphasising the rules around gifts and hospitality and that members should indicate a reason for acceptance for each declaration.

The report was otherwise noted

8 RECEIPT OF GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY BY OFFICERS (Agenda Item 8)

The monitoring officer was asked to investigate the organisation 4children as they appeared multiple times as a donor.

Officers should be reminded that gifts could be donated to the Mayor's charity. There should be consistency in the AELTC ballot declarations for officers and members.

Members and officers should be aware of the perceptions of certain gifts and arrangements - the Conway's sponsorship of a table at the MJ awards could be misunderstood.

The report was otherwise noted.

9 COMPLAINTS AGAINST MEMBERS (Agenda Item 9)

None

10 WORK PROGRAMME (Agenda Item 10)

Report on member induction for February 2014.