

<b>WYFRA</b>	<b>STANDARDS COMMITTEE</b>	<b>7 MARCH 2008</b>	<b>ITEM No</b>
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REPORT OF: DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE RESOURCES  
(MONITORING OFFICER)

PURPOSE OF REPORT: TO NOTE THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE  
STANDARDS BOARD FOR ENGLAND (SBE)  
THAT EACH STANDARDS COMMITTEE HAS A  
MINIMUM OF THREE INDEPENDENT  
MEMBERS

RECOMMENDATION: THAT CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO THE SBE  
RECOMMENDATION WITH A VIEW TO THE  
POSSIBLE AMENDMENT TO THE  
MEMBERSHIP OF THIS AUTHORITY'S  
STANDARDS COMMITTEE.

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#### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT DETAILS**

Exemption Category: Nil

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Background Papers:

## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The Local Authorities (Standards Committee) Regulations 2001 provide for the size and make-up of standards committees. Authorities are required under these Regulations to appoint at least one independent member. Following an appointment process this Authority appointed one independent member with effect from 1 January 2002 together with one Member from each of the three political groups.
- 1.2 The constitution of the Committee was subsequently amended as a result of further guidance from the Standards Board for England (SBE) and approval was given at the 28 June 2002 meeting of the full Authority to increase the membership to provide for five members, two of whom to be independent members.

## **2. INFORMATION**

- 2.1 This Authority has appointed an independent member to the chair of the Standards Committee since its inaugural meeting in March 2002. This has subsequently become a requirement under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.
- 2.2 The local assessment of Code of Conduct complaints will soon become the responsibility of standards committees and, to facilitate this change in the committees' terms of reference, the SBE has recommended that each standards committee has a minimum of three independent members. This would require an increase by one in the number of independent members appointed to this Committee.

## **3. RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 That consideration be given to the recommendation of the Standards Board for England in respect of the independent membership of this Committee and make recommendations to the full Authority as appropriate.