

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF WIRRAL

STANDARDS COMMITTEE - 1 APRIL 2003

STANDARDS COMMITTEE FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME

1. Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to advise members of the diaried meetings of standards committee for the coming municipal year and to suggest an initial work programme in relation to that. Members are requested to note the report.

2. Background

2.1 The Council has approved a committee calendar which shows three meetings of the Standards Committee in the coming municipal year. They are scheduled to take place on:-

Wednesday 18 June 2003
Monday 17 November 2003
Thursday 25 March 2004

I will of course discuss the work programme for standards in the start of the new municipal year but at this stage the Chair has suggested that I canvass the views of committees as to what should be on the agenda for June.

I would suggest that in relation to June's agenda, the following items appear -

- dealing with requests dispensations from members who have declared prejudicial interests - proposed procedure
- update on the regulations for local investigations and suggested procedure
- annual report of local Ombudsman in relation to maladministration for the year ended 2002/03
- analysis of current complaints for the Standards Board
- employee code of conduct - (presuming it has by then been published by Government) - An item for discussion and recommendation to Council.

2.2 As well as the diaried meetings of Standards Committee, it may well be that it will have to meet at different times in order to consider any investigation of local complaints or matters that have been referred by the Ethical Standards Officers as well as requests for dispensations from members in relation to prejudicial interests.

2.3 In addition to that, the Committee may well decide that it wishes to meet more regularly or for example meet for training in respect of which there is a separate item on the agenda. Members are asked to consider whether they would wish any other items to appear on the June agenda.

3. Financial and Staffing Implications

There are none arising from this report.

4. Any other implications

There are none arising from this report.

5. Recommendation

It is recommended that the report be noted.

JOHANNA MILLER
Borough Solicitor and Secretary

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