

## **WIRRAL COUNCIL**

### **STANDARDS COMMITTEE – 2 DECEMBER 2010**

#### **STANDARDS FOR ENGLAND - ONLINE PUBLICATIONS**

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##### **1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee about recent online publications from Standards for England.

##### **2.0 BACKGROUND**

2.1 One of Standards for England's key functions is to provide guidance for authorities when implementing the Code of Conduct. It aims to help members, monitoring officers and standards committees "to successfully interpret the Code of Conduct."

It therefore produces a range of guidance materials including various online guides.

The Committee received a report about online guides at its meeting on 29 March 2010 .

##### **3.0 (a) Online Topic Guide – Blogging and (b) Quick guide for Dual – hatted members**

3.1 Standards for England have now produced an online topic guide on Blogging.

The guide is "aimed at members who are new to blogging and and social networking as well as experienced bloggers and networkers. It contains information about how the new Code of Conduct may apply to blogging and social networking . it also gives some examples of tribunal cases that have dealt with the issues..

The Blogging topic guide can be found at :

<http://www.standardsforengland.gov.uk/Guidance/TheCodeofConduct/CodeGuidance/Onlineguides/Guidance/TheCodeofConduct/CodeGuidance/Topicguides/Blogging/>

This new topic guide is more detailed than the 'Blogging Quick Guide' published by Standards for England earlier in the year.

The Committee is asked to agree that this latest topic guide should be circulated to all members.

3.2 Standards for England have also produced an online 'quick guide' for Dual-hatted members.

This contains advice on when a dual-hatted member should declare an interest.

The quick guide can be found at:

<http://www.standardsforengland.gov.uk/Guidance/TheCodeofConduct/CodeGuidance/Onlineguides/Quickcodeguides/Dual-hattedmembers/>

3.3 If any member is unable to access either of the guides and would like a hard copy, they should contact the Contact officer named below.

#### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are no specific financial implications arising from this report.

#### **5.0 STAFFING IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no specific staffing implications arising from this report.

#### **6.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 There are no specific equal opportunities implications arising from this report.

#### **7.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 There are no community safety implications arising from this report.

#### **8.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21**

8.1 There are no local agenda 21 implications arising from this report.

#### **9.0 PLANNING IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 There are no specific planning implications arising from this report.

#### **10.0 ANTI-POVERTY IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 There are no anti-poverty implications arising from this report.

#### **11.0 SOCIAL INCLUSION IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 There are no social inclusion implications arising from this report.

#### **12.0 LOCAL MEMBER SUPPORT IMPLICATIONS**

12.1 There are no local member support implications.

#### **13.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

13.1 [www.standardsforengland](http://www.standardsforengland) –online guides

## **14.0 RECOMMENDATION**

14.1 Committee is requested to note the contents of this report.

BILL NORMAN

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