

To: Councillors Stebbings (Chair), Barrett-Payton, Boyce, Hymans, McPherson and R Smith.

External members: Dr A Clark, Ms L Hobbs

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STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Date: Wednesday 2 March 2005

Time: 6.00pm

Place: Committee Room 1, The Guildhall

Contact: Jason Agar

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AGENDA

1 [MINUTES](#)

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 5 January 2005. *Page 3*

2 APOLOGIES

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are asked to declare at this stage any interests which they may have in any of the following items on the agenda. If any member is unsure whether or not they should declare an interest on a particular matter, they are requested to seek advice from the Head of Legal and Democratic Services before the meeting.

4 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – see below for detail of the scheme and other public information.

5 UPDATE ON APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL MEMBER (*Committee Manager*)

6 [REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE](#) (*Director of Central Services*)

The Council is required to have this Code. Cambridge adopted its first Code in 2002 and it is now time for its annual review. The reviewed Code is attached. As happened at previous reviews, the Council's Civic Affairs Committee will be considering the document en route to full Council, but it is also appropriate to ask this Committee if it wishes to make any comment. The origin and purpose of the Code are explained in its introduction. The national guidance is in italics at the start of each section. The column "Cambridge City Council commits itself to" is also taken from the guidance as to what Codes should contain. Therefore, members of this Committee should focus their attention on the column "How the Council will do this".

7 [TENTH REPORT \(PARTS 3 & 4\) OF THE COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE \(GRAHAM COMMITTEE\)](#) (*Director of Central Services*) (This link is to a summary of the Graham Committee report)

Report recommends, *inter alia*, an enhanced role for Standards Committees in investigating allegations of Code of Conduct breaches. Report extract and recommendations (10-14) to be noted by Committee.

Information for the public

You are welcome to attend this meeting as an observer, although it may be necessary to ask you to leave the room during the discussion of matters which are described as confidential on the agenda.

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*You can ask questions on an issue included on the agenda, or on an issue which is within this committee's powers. If you wish to ask a question related to an agenda item contact the committee officer (listed above under 'contact') **before the meeting starts**. If you wish to ask a question on a matter not included on this agenda, please contact the committee officer by 10.00am the working day before the meeting. Further details concerning the right to speak at committee can be obtained from the committee section.*

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In the event of the fire alarm sounding (which is a continuous ringing sound), you should pick up your possessions and leave the building by the route you came in. Once clear of the building, you should assemble on the pavement opposite the main entrance to the Guildhall and await further instructions. If your escape route or the assembly area is unsafe, you will be directed to safe areas by a member of Cambridge City Council staff.