



# Minutes

Name of meeting	<b>ETHICAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE</b>
Date and time	<b>MONDAY, 19 JANUARY 2009 COMMENCING AT 6.00 PM</b>
Venue	<b>COMMITTEE ROOM ONE, COUNTY HALL, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT</b>
Present	<u>Independent Members:</u>  Mr Mark Southwell (Chairman), Mr Anthony Brindle, Mr Bruce Claxton, Mr Keith Fagan, Mr George Hibberd, Mr Peter Tautz, Mrs Susan Tudor Smith  <u>Representative of Town and Parish Councils:</u>  Mr Richard Day, Mr Ron Mew, Mr Denis Russell  <u>Isle of Wight Council Members :</u>  Cllrs Mike Cunningham, Heather Humby, Erica Oulton
Officers Present	Davina Fiore, Julie Martin, Chris Mathews
Apologies	Cllr Muriel Miller

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25. **Minutes**

RESOLVED :

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on [15 September 2008](#) be confirmed.

26. **Declarations of Interest**

Mr Richard Day declared a personal interest in Minute 28 (a) as he was the Chairman of the Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils.

27. **Update from the Chairman**

The Chairman reported that the Consideration and Hearing Sub Committee had received the investigation report relating to Councillor Roger Mazillius. The Sub Committee had accepted the findings of the investigating officer that there was no breach. Councillor Mazillius had asked for the decision to be published in the local press.

28. **Reports of the Director of Corporate Services**

(a) Feedback to Parish and Town Councils and Isle of Wight Council Committees

There was some discussion as to how the independent members of the Committee may wish to give feedback to Parish and Town Councils as a consequence of visits made throughout the year.

Informal discussions had been held with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils with a view to developing a joint protocol whereby any feedback could be given to the Parish and Town Councils. The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Association had raised some concerns about the proposal and in particular the possible conflict at a later date.

It was suggested that additional wording should be added to the draft protocol indicating that where a Parish or Town Council, at the end of the meeting requested immediate feedback it would be given otherwise it would be done through the Monitoring Officer.

RESOLVED :

- (i) THAT the protocol and generic feedback form be adopted as a draft.
- (ii) THAT the report and appendices be circulated to all Parish and Town Councils, and the Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils for a consultation period of 6 weeks.
- (iii) THAT any comments be considered by the Committee prior to final adoption.

(b) Initial Assessment Review and Report Back

The Monitoring Officer reported on the latest statistics following the assessment of complaints made against members.

It was noted that the Deputy Monitoring Officer had already dealt with case ESC.18.08.

RESOLVED

THAT the report be noted.

(c) Standards Board Bulletin 41

Members noted that, in terms of the initial assessments there was not a national breakdown of figures. The Monitoring Officer had been advised that the Isle of Wight was the fastest in dealing with initial assessments in the country.

RESOLVED :

THAT the content of the Bulletin be noted.

29. **Updates from Monitoring Officer**

The Monitoring Officer advised the Committee that a timetable for the investigation process would be produced in an agreed format and then given to the Chairman of the Assessment Sub Committee who had asked for the investigation.

Two investigations had been undertaken and both reports had were now available to the public.

30. **Workplan**

The Annual Report to be added to the March 2009 meeting.

CHAIRMAN