



# Minutes

Name of meeting **GENERAL PURPOSES (APPEALS) SUB COMMITTEE**  
Date and time **TUESDAY, 11 DECEMBER 2007 COMMENCING AT 12.30 PM**  
Venue **CONFERENCE ROOM, BUGLE HOUSE, HIGH STREET, NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT**  
Present Cllrs Jonathan Fitzgerald-Bond (Chairman), John Hobart, Diana Tuson  
Officers Present Martin Chitty (Wragge & Co), Stewart Dobson (Designated Independent Person), Rachel Kamm ( Barrister for the Council), Julie Martin

4. **Minutes**

RESOLVED :

THAT the Minutes of the meeting held on [23 May 2007](#) be confirmed.

5. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest at this time.

6. **Exclusion of Public and Press**

RESOLVED:

THAT, under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that there is likely to be disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A (as Amended) of the Act and in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

7. **Confidential Minutes**

RESOLVED :

THAT the confidential Minutes of the meeting held on 23 May 2007 be confirmed.

8.

### **Confidential Report of the Interim Director of Legal and Democratic Services**

The Chairman welcomed all those present and introduced Members of the Committee. He confirmed that all members had read the papers and outlined the procedure that was to be followed.

It was noted that the appellant had notified the General Purposes (Appeals) Sub Committee that he would not be attending or represented at the hearing.

Following an outline to the background of the case from the Designated Independent Person, the questioning of a witness and representations from the Isle of Wight Council's representative, all parties withdrew whilst the Committee adjourned to consider the appeal.

The General Purposes (Appeals) Sub Committee had heard evidence from Mr Dobson as to the approach taken to his report, to the recommendations made and the sanctions available to the council.

The General Purposes (Appeals) Sub Committee also heard evidence direct from Councillor Brown as to the approach taken by the Investigatory and Disciplinary Committee in concluding that it was appropriate to terminate Mr Lawson's employment summarily in light of the duty of mutual trust and confidence.

Having taken into account the submissions made by Mr Lawson and by Miss Kamm on behalf of the Council it was

#### **RESOLVED :**

- (i) THAT the allegations against Mr Lawson were substantiated;
- (ii) THAT the Council was legally entitled to dismiss Mr Lawson;
- (iii) THAT the General Purposes (Appeals) Sub Committee uphold the Investigatory and Disciplinary Committee decision to dismiss summarily.

CHAIRMAN