

Article 8

The Standards Committee

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- 1 The Council will establish a Standards Committee composed of:
 - i. *four* Councillors (who may not include the Executive Leader);
 - ii. *four* Independent Members who will have a vote (appointed in accordance with Local Government Act 2000 and its subsidiary regulations) and one of whom will Chair the Committee;
 - iii. *three* Parish Councillors of Parish Councils in the Council's area, who *are* not also City Councillors.

- 2 A Parish Council Member must be present when matters relating to Parish Councils or their Members are being considered.

General Role

- 3 The Standards Committee will:
 - seek to promote and maintain high standard of conduct in the transaction of all Council and Local Council business.
 - assist in the observation of the Members' Code of Conduct (set out in Part 5 of this Constitution)
 - advise on the adoption, revision or monitoring of the Members' Code of Conduct
 - take a general overview on all ethical issues and issues of probity
 - undertake *assessments, appeals against assessments or conduct hearings* into *complaints received by it directly or into* such matters as are referred to it by and in accordance with the procedural rules of the Standards Board for England
 - submit an Annual Report of the business undertaken by the Committee to Full Council
 - liaise as necessary with the Audit and Governance Committee on any matter that may be of common concern to both, principally in relation to any matter arising in relation to corporate governance,
 - maintain an oversight of complaints handling and Ombudsman investigations

