

	
STANDARDS COMMITTEE	17 December 2010
Report of the Monitoring Officer	

Registers of Gifts and Hospitality

Summary

1. At the January meeting of the Committee, Members considered a report in relation to the register of gifts and hospitality and resolved that there should be an annual review of these registers. This report is in response to that resolution.

Background

2. The Members Code of Conduct requires Members to register all gifts and hospitality valued at over twenty five pounds. The register of interests for all Members of City of York Council is held both manually and on the Council's website. Registers for each Parish Council are held in manual form only and are retained by the Monitoring Officer.
3. It remains the case that about half of the City of York Council's Members have entered details of gifts and hospitality. A number of Members go further than the Code requires in that they register lower value items and register offers of hospitality which have been made but refused. Random sampling of the registers for Parish Councillors indicates that a far lower proportion of Parish Councillors have made such entries.
4. It was previously reported that most of the declarations relate either to tickets to the Racecourse or to the Theatre Royal. During 2010 the Racecourse changed its practice and no longer offers race tickets generally to Councillors. They are however, still offered to the Lord Mayor and made available to former Lord Mayors. No Theatre Royal tickets appear to have been accepted during 2010.
5. Members are responsible for updating their own registers of interests, including giving details of any hospitality received. Early in the municipal year all Members of the City of York Council and the Clerks to each Parish Council were reminded by the Monitoring Officer of the need to ensure that registers were kept up to date.

Recommendations

6. It is recommended that the Standards Committee note this report.

Contact Details

Author	Chief Officer Responsible for the report			
<i>Author's name: Andy Docherty Title: Assistant Director of Governance and ICT Dept Name: CBSS Tel No: ext 1004</i>	<i>Chief Officer's name: Andy Docherty Title: Assistant Director of Governance and ICT</i>			
	Report Approved	<i>tick</i>	Date	<i>Insert Date</i>

Background Papers

None

Annexes

None