Meeting Joint Standards Committee - Assessments

Sub-Committee

Date 15 June 2016

Present Councillors Runciman, Waudby and Hayes

In attendance Ms Davies and Mr Laverick

1. Appointment of Chair

Resolved: That Councillor Runciman be appointed to Chair the

meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest

Members were asked to declare any personal interests not included on the Register of Interests, any prejudicial interests or any disclosable pecuniary interests which they might have in respect of business on the agenda. No additional interests were declared.

3. Exclusion of Press and Public

Resolved: That the press and public be excluded from the

meeting during consideration of agenda item 4 on the grounds that it contains information relating to individuals. This information is classed as exempt under paragraph 1 of Schedule 12A to Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information)

(Variation) Order 2006.

4. Complaints against a Member of a Council covered by the Joint Standards Committee

Members considered complaints made against a Member of a Council covered by the Joint Standards Committee and were

asked to decide whether, and how, the matters should be pursued.

The substance of the complaints related to alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct by the Member in respect of issues surrounding a meeting at which they were present.

The report of the Deputy Monitoring Officer and the views of the Independent Persons were noted.

Having considered the evidence provided in support of the complaints, it was

Resolved: (i) That no further action be taken in respect of the allegation that the Member acted with bias at the meeting.

- (ii) That the other matters detailed in the complaints be referred to the Monitoring Officer for investigation.
- (iii) That, as part of the investigation, consideration be given as to whether it would be appropriate to provide further guidance to Members in respect of issues highlighted in the complaints.

Reasons: (i) The Sub-Committee considers that, in respect of this aspect of the complaint, evidence had not been provided to demonstrate that the Code of Conduct had been breached.

- (ii) The Sub-Committee considers that, in respect of the other aspects of the complaints, the facts of the case indicate a prima facie breach of the Code by the Member concerned.
- (iii) To ensure that Members receive appropriate guidance and training.

Councillor Runciman, Chair [The meeting started at 1.35 pm and finished at 2.10 pm].