

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

26 March 2009

AGENDA STATUS: PUBLIC

Report Title	Standards Board- publications update
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Date of Meeting:	26 March 2009
Directorate:	Chief Executive's
Ward(s)	All

1. Summary

Issue 42 of the Standards Board's 'Bulletin' is attached and comment made on some of its points. The case concerning the Harrogate Borough Council is commented on in a separate report.

2. Recommendations

That members note the contents.

3. Report Background

The key points to note from the Bulletin are:-

3.1 Members should note that further regulations ('the Standards Committee (Further Provisions) Regulations 2009' are being drafted and are expected to be in force in May. Of particular significance is provision in them for the functions of standards committees to be discharged by committees set up by neighbouring authorities; an extension of joint or 'shared service' working, in effect.

3.2 Members should note that the Standards Board website is expected from this month to include another section highlighting examples of good practice from standards committees at other authorities. It will be worth visiting to stimulate discussion in this authority as to how to increase the quality of work and profile of the standards committee.

4. Implications (including financial implications)

4.1 Resources and risk

There are none- apart from, perhaps, the resources needed to arrange training for members on any points arising.

4.2 Legal

None worth mentioning.

4.3 Other implications

If members do not keep reasonably up-to-date with the points in publications such as this one then they may find it harder to perform their tasks on the various sub-committees which are involved in the determination of member-conduct complaints.

5. Background papers)

None

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