



NORTHAMPTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

STANDARDS COMMITTEE
10 January 2006

Item No. 182

Report of Solicitor to the Council

**Directorate: Finance Governance
& Citizens**

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PROPOSED ANNUAL REPORT

Recommendations

That the Committee consider the report and approve the provision of an Annual Report as detailed in paragraphs 2.2 and 2.3.

1. BACKGROUND

At the end of the first period of operation of the Standards Committee, the Monitoring Officer reported a summary of the work that had been carried out by the Committee. This mainly comprised the completion of the initial procedural and statutory functions, training, (newsletters), the Section 66 Regulations regarding local determinations and local hearings, protocols for probity in planning, the member/officers protocol and the guidance for members on outside bodies.

2. PROPOSAL

- 2.1 It is suggested, subject to the views of the members of the Committee, that a Report is prepared on an Annual basis detailing the work carried out by the Standards Committee in the previous period, also detailing other relevant matters concerning ethical governance.
- 2.2 It is proposed that the Annual Report will broadly comprise of the work carried out by the Committee with reference to the workplan, and issues that will require addressing as part of the plan, ethical issues in connection with ombudsman complaints, reviews of the registers, protocols (as appropriate), complaints/hearings and any other ethical governance issues of the Monitoring Officer.

2.3 To raise the profile of the Standards Committee and the importance of ethical issues and confidence in democracy, it is proposed that following approval of the report by the Committee, that it be forwarded to the Council for noting.