

## Report to Standards Committee



<b>DATE</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> February 2007</b>
<b>PORTFOLIO</b>	<b>Leadership</b>
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**Review on Member and Officer Interests****PURPOSE**

1. To advise the Standards Committee on the completion of the review in relation to Member Interests and to seek its endorsement of the review recommendation.
2. To request that the Committee gives consideration to the adoption by the Council of the guidance information.

**SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS**

3. Following concerns raised by Council, the Better Services Review on Member Interests identified areas where significant improvements to internal mechanisms and guidance for Members and Officers could be achieved.
4. A report was considered by the Better Services Scrutiny Committee on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2007, a copy of the report and associated [appendices](#) are attached. The report outlined the stages of the review, key achievements and recommendations. The main achievements of the review have been the production of new guidance for Members and Officers, which provides advice specific to appointments to outside bodies and related party interests.
5. The Standards Committee are requested to consider the content and adoption of the guidance documents.

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the Standards Committee endorses the findings and outcome of the review on Member and Officer Interests;
2. That the Standards Committee recommends to Council that the Guidance for Members and Officers involved in outside organisations and Guidance for Members and Officers on the requirement to declare Related Party Transactions

as attached to this report be approved and incorporated into Part 5 of the Constitution of the Council.

3. That the content of the reference guides attached as appendix 3 of the report be approved and circulated to all members for information.

4. That the Committee notes that a further report will be submitted when stage 2 of the review is completed.

#### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

1. To comply with a recommendation of the District Auditor, to promote the maintenance of high standards in public life, clarify responsibility, to keep the guidance fit for purpose and relevant to the needs of the organisation, its staff and stakeholders.
2. The Standards Committee are the responsible body for promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct by Members, and therefore should consider the content of any related materials for use by Members prior to publication.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGET PROVISION**

6. None

#### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

7. If approved, the guidance will be incorporated into the Council's constitution.

#### **DETAILS OF CONSULTATION**

8. Better Services Scrutiny Committee  
Member Structures and Support Working Group

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

All documentation in relation to the Member Interest and Outside Bodies Working Group

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

**PLEASE CONTACT:**

**David Wilcock**

**ALSO:**