

APPEALS AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE (Statutory Powers)

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Remit: Responsible for ensuring compliance with the Code of Conduct and hearing Appeals as and when necessary.

General:

- To assist the Authority in discharging its duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by Members and co-opted members of the Authority.
- To assist Members and co-opted Members of the Authority in understanding and observing the requirements of the Authority's Code of Conduct for Members and co-opted members ("the Code").
- To advise the Authority on revisions to the Code and on procedures for dealing with standards complaints.
- To receive reports from the Monitoring Officer.
- To deal with such other functions as the Authority considers appropriate.

Dispensations:

- To hear appeals against decisions of the Monitoring officer not to grant a dispensation.
- To grant dispensations to Members on behalf of the Authority under section 33 of the Local Government Act 2011.

Standards Allegations:

- To determine, in consultation with the Independent Person in relation to matters referred to the Committee by the Monitoring Officer, whether a complaint requires investigation.
- To consider complaint investigation reports referred to it by the Monitoring Officer and to determine, in consultation with the Independent Person:
 - I. Whether there is a "no breach of code" finding on investigation that no further action is required.
 - II. Where there is a "breach of code" finding on investigation to consider and determine whether:
 - a) to proceed by way of local resolution avoiding the necessity for a hearing; or

b) to hold a hearing.

III. If the allegation is upheld the Appeals and Standards Committee shall either:

a) Determine that no further action be taken; or

b) Recommend to the Authority any further appropriate action be taken in accordance with the general powers available to the Authority.