

**COUNCILLORS' BULLETIN  
WEDNESDAY, 26 MAY 2010**

**CONTENTS**



South  
Cambridgeshire  
District Council

**1. Meetings and events from 27 May to 11 June 2010**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Contact</b>
<b>Thu 27 May</b>	2 pm	<a href="#">Council: Annual General Meeting</a> Council will adjourn temporarily to allow the following committees to meet and elect their Chairmen and appoint their Vice-Chairman for 2010/11: <a href="#">Corporate Governance Committee</a> <a href="#">Electoral Arrangements Committee</a> <a href="#">Employment Committee</a> <a href="#">Planning Committee</a> <a href="#">Planning Enforcement Sub-Committee</a> <a href="#">Scrutiny and Overview Committee</a> <a href="#">Climate Change Working Group</a> Constitution Review Working Party <a href="#">Licensing Committee</a> <a href="#">Licensing Committee (2003 Act)</a>  The Annual Council meeting will resume following the meeting of the Licensing Committee (2003 Act)	Council Chamber	<a href="#">Holly Adams</a>
<b>Fri 28 May</b>				
<b>Mon 31 May</b>	Spring Bank Holiday (Council Offices Closed)			
<b>Tue 1 Jun</b>				
<b>Wed 2 Jun</b>	2 pm	<a href="#">Planning Committee</a>	Council Chamber	<a href="#">Ian Senior</a>
<b>Thu 3 Jun</b>				
<b>Fri 4 Jun</b>				
<b>Mon 7 Jun</b>				
<b>Tue 8 Jun</b>				
<b>Wed 9 Jun</b>	2 pm	<a href="#">Northstowe Portfolio Holder's meeting</a>	Jeavons Room	<a href="#">Patrick Adams</a>
<b>Thu 10 Jun</b>				
<b>Fri 11 Jun</b>				

**INFORMATION FOR DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

**2. Cambridgeshire Local Transport Plan 3 - Public Consultation Period Extended**

In response to concerns about the leaflet delivery to households, Cambridgeshire County Council has extended the public consultation period for the Cambridgeshire Local Transport Plan 3 to 30 July 2010.

Full details are available on the [Local Transport Plan pages](#) on Cambridgeshire County Council's website.

**3. Members' Allowances Scheme 2009-10: Expenses Paid**

Below are the expenses paid to members and co-opted members of South Cambridgeshire District Council for the financial year 1 April 2009-31 March 2010:

Councillor:	Total Basic Allowance	Total Special Responsibilities	Traveling Expenses	Subsistence Allowance	Childcare or Dependence Allowance	TOTAL	Responsibility
AMRANI Mrs FAR	£4,626.96	£0.00	£281.60	£0.00	£7.00	£4,915.56	
BARD, Dr DR	£4,626.96	£6,867.96	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£11,494.92	New Communities Portfolio Holder
BARRETT, RE	£4,626.96	£888.00	£953.20	£0.00	£0.00	£6,468.16	Chairman of Licensing Committee
BARRETT, Mrs VM	£4,626.96	£0.00	£175.12	£0.00	£0.00	£4,802.08	
BATCHELOR, JD	£4,626.96	£3,495.00	£816.40	£2.50	£0.00	£8,940.86	Chairman Scrutiny and Overview Committee
BEAR, Mrs PM	£4,626.96	£0.00	£570.00	£0.00	£0.00	£5,196.96	
BERENT, AN	£4,626.96	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£4,626.96	
BIRD, D	£4,626.96	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£4,626.96	
BOLITHO, NCF	£4,626.96	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£4,626.96	
BRYANT, RF	£0.00	£220.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£220.00	Parish Member of Standards Committee
BURKITT, FWM	£4,626.96	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£4,626.96	
BURLING, BR	£4,626.96	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£4,626.96	
BUTCHER, Ms GJ	£0.00	£276.00	£246.83	£66.10	£0.00	£588.93	Independent Member of Standards Committee
BYGOTT, TD	£4,626.96	£5,926.39	£327.70	£0.00	£0.00	£10,881.05	Sustainability, Procurement and Efficiency Portfolio Holder May-1 November 2009, then Environmental Services

								Portfolio Holder November 2009-14 January 2010, then Policy and Performance Portfolio Holder from 15 January 2010
CATHCART, NN	£4,626.96	£0.00	£201.31	£0.00	£0.00	£4,828.27		
CHATFIELD, JP	£4,626.96	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£4,626.96		
CORNEY, Mrs PS	£4,626.96	£4,437.00	£311.94	£0.00	£0.00	£9,375.90	Planning Committee Chairman	
DAVIES, NS	£4,626.96	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£4,626.96		
DIPPLE, Miss JA	£4,626.96	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£4,626.96		
DOGGETT, Mrs SJO	£4,626.96	£0.00	£54.40	£2.04	£0.00	£4,683.40		
EDWARDS, SM	£4,626.96	£7,725.94	£743.20	£0.00	£0.00	£13,096.10	Finance and Staffing Portfolio Holder and Deputy Leader	
ELLINGTON, Mrs SM	£4,626.96	£6,867.96	£694.80	£41.50	£0.00	£12,231.22	Environmental Services Portfolio Holder	
ENGLISH, Mrs KM	£0.00	£719.00	£179.22	£73.70	£0.00	£971.92	Independent Member and Chair of Standards Committee	
FARRAR, M	£0.00	£220.00	£158.70	£0.00	£0.00	£378.70	Parish Member of Standards Committee	
FORD, Mrs VG	£295.61	£0.00	£18.40	£0.00	£0.00	£314.01	Resources Portfolio Holder. Resigned 23 April 2009	
GUEST, Mrs JM	£4,626.96	£0.00	£314.40	£0.00	£0.00	£4,941.36		
HALL, R	£4,626.96	£0.00	£428.66	£40.10	£0.00	£5,095.72		
HAMPTON, AC	£0.00	£276.00	£250.58	£0.00	£0.00	£526.58	Independent Member of Standards Committee	
HARANGOZO, Dr SA	£4,626.96	£0.00	£0.00	£138.00	£0.00	£4,764.96		
HATTON, Mrs SA	£4,626.96	£0.00	£331.26	£4.20	£0.00	£4,962.42		
HEAZELL, Mrs EM	£4,626.96	£0.00	£425.60	£18.67	£0.00	£5,071.23		

HOCKNEY, JA	£4,626.96	£1,748.04	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£6,375.00	Scrutiny and Overview Committee Vice Chairman
HOUSE, JL	£0.00	£276.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£276.00	Independent Member of Standards Committee
HOWELL, MP	£4,626.96	£6,867.96	£260.34	£26.50	£0.00	£11,781.76	Staffing Portfolio Holder to 23 May 2009 Housing Portfolio Holder from 24 May 2009
JOHNSON, PT	£4,626.96	£0.00	£26.80	£0.00	£0.00	£4,653.76	
KELLEWAY, DC	£0.00	£220.00	£12.42	£0.00	£0.00	£232.42	Parish Member of Standards Committee
KINDERSLEY, SGM	£4,626.96	£3,495.00	£467.85	£14.20	£0.00	£8,604.01	Leader of the Opposition
de LACEY, Dr D	£4,626.96	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£4,626.96	
LOCKWOOD, Mrs JE	£4,626.96	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£4,626.96	
LOYNES, MB	£4,626.96	£0.00	£315.65	£0.00	£0.00	£4,942.61	
MANNING, RMA	£4,626.96	£10,299.96	£1,232.40	£10.90	£0.00	£16,170.22	Leader of Council
MARTLEW, RH	£4,626.96	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£4,626.96	
MASON, MJ	£4,626.96	£0.00	£0.00	£57.20	£0.00	£4,684.16	
MATTHEWS, RM	£4,626.96	£0.00	£182.40	£0.00	£0.00	£4,809.36	
MCCRAITH, DC	£4,626.96	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£4,626.96	
MORGAN, DH	£4,626.96	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£4,626.96	
MORGAN, Mrs LA	£4,626.96	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£4,626.96	
MURFITT, Mrs CAED	£4,626.96	£0.00	£494.88	£0.00	£0.00	£5,121.84	
NIGHTINGALE, CR	£4,626.96	£3,617.79	£1,212.00	£0.00	£0.00	£9,456.75	Chairman of Council from 25 May 2009
ORGEE, AG	£4,626.96	£2,989.24	£408.40	£131.50	£0.00	£8,156.10	Finance Portfolio Holder to 24 May 2009, Vice Chairman of Council from 25 May 2009
PILFOLD-ALLEN, Mrs MS	£0.00	£276.00	£48.90	£0.00	£0.00	£324.90	
REVELL, EM	£276.00	£276.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£552.00	Independent Member of Standards Committee
RILEY, A	£4,626.96	£0.00	£170.43	£0.00	£0.00	£4,797.39	
ROBERTS, Mrs	£4,626.96	£0.00	£551.27	£0.00	£0.00	£5,178.23	

DP								
SCARR, NJ	£4,626.96	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£4,626.96		
SMITH, Mrs BZD	£4,626.96	£0.00	£652.46	£0.00	£280.99	£5,560.41		
SMITH, Mrs HM	£4,626.96	£0.00	£558.31	£13.10	£0.00	£5,198.37		
SQUIER, Mrs JEO	£3,663.01	£0.00	£15.25	£0.00	£0.00	£3,678.26	Elected 4 June 2009	
STEWART, JH	£4,626.96	£532.49	£85.84	£0.00	£0.00	£5,245.29	Chairman of Council until 24 May 2009	
SUMMERFIELD , RT	£4,626.96	£59.09	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£4,686.05	Chairman of Employment Committee to 24 May 2009	
TOMSETT, CF	£0.00	£220.00	£36.85	£0.00	£0.00	£256.85	Parish Member of Standards Committee	
TOPPING, PW	£4,626.96	£1,775.04	£322.10	£0.00	£0.00	£6,724.10	Chairman Corporate Governance Committee	
TURNER, RJ	£4,626.96	£2,219.04	£394.71	£0.00	£0.00	£7,240.71	Chairman Planning Sub Committee	
VAN DE VEN, Dr SEK	£4,626.96	£0.00	£163.24	£0.00	£0.00	£4,790.20		
WATERS, Mrs BE	£4,626.96	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£4,626.96		
WILLIAMS, John F	£4,626.96	£0.00	£697.60	£7.50	£0.00	£5,332.06		
WILLIAMS, James G	£0.00	£276.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£276.00	Independent Member of Standards Committee	
WOTHER- SPOON, TJ	£4,626.96	£6,867.96	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£11,494.92	Policy and Performance Portfolio Holder to 15 January 2010, Northstowe Portfolio Holder from 16 January 2010	
WRIGHT, NIC	£4,626.96	£6,867.96	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£11,494.92	Planning Portfolio Holder	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£263,344.38</b>	<b>£86,802.82</b>	<b>£15,793.44</b>	<b>£647.71</b>	<b>£287.99</b>	<b>£366,876.34</b>		

#### PARISH COUNCIL INFORMATION

#### 4. Standards Committee Newsletter Spring 2010

The Standards Committee's Spring 2010 newsletter addresses the two main issues leading to allegations during the past year:

- Personal and prejudicial interests, particularly where they relate to planning matters; and
- Use of social media like Facebook, blogs, electronic forums, etc.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### 5. Rural Services Network Weekly Digest

The Rural Services Network is a group of over 250 service providers and local authorities working to establish best practice across the spectrum of rural service provision. The network has representation across the complete range of rural services. For general comments or enquiries, email: [editor@ruralcity.co.uk](mailto:editor@ruralcity.co.uk)

- [Cuts 'will damage' public services](#): An extra £6.25bn of government cuts will inevitably damage public services, union leaders have warned.
- [Spending slashed by £6.25bn](#): The government has unveiled £6.25bn of cuts as it tries to tackle Britain's burgeoning budget deficit.
- [Coalition pledge on broadband](#): The government has promised measures to ensure the rapid rollout of superfast broadband across the country.
- [Call for evidence on mobile phones](#): Poor mobile phone coverage is holding back the rural economy, believes a government watchdog.
- [Councils must get message across](#): New guidance aims to ensure local councils communicate effectively with the communities they serve.

### 6. Weekly Planning List

To view the list of planning applications submitted in the past seven days, please visit the Council's on-line [Planning Application Search](#). Once the page has loaded, select the relevant parish from the drop-down list, set the date period to '7 days' and click the Search button **or** click the Advanced button, select a ward from the drop-down list, then set the date period to '7 days' and click the Search button.

The system will provide a range of information on current and decided applications since 1948, including a brief description of the development, reference number, decision and the date of decision. More recent applications show the name and telephone number of the council officer who is dealing with the application.

Search results are presented in a collection of pages, the number of which depends on the number of results your search produces. Each page displays 30 results and there are navigation tools to allow you to browse these results.

## EXECUTIVE DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE 19 MAY 2010

In accordance with the [Access to Information Procedure Rules in Part 4 of the Council's Constitution](#), any executive decision shall be published normally within five days of being made. That record will bear the date on which it is published and will specify that the decision will come into force, and may then be implemented, on the expiry of 5 working days after the publication of the decision, unless called in for review by the Chairman of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee or by any five other councillors.

A list of decisions currently within the call-in period is available [on the Council's website](#).

Unless otherwise specified, the [Democratic Services Section](#) must be notified of any call in by **Thursday 3 June 2010 at 5 pm**. All decisions not called in by this date may be implemented on **Friday 4 June 2010**.

Any member considering calling in a decision is requested to contact the [Democratic Services Section](#) to determine whether any relevant amendments have been incorporated.

The call in procedure is set out in full in [Part 4 of the Council's Constitution, 'Scrutiny and Overview Committee Procedure Rules'](#).

**7. Climate Change Action Plan 2010-2013**

The New Communities Portfolio Holder

1. **REQUESTED** that an Executive Summary be added to the consultation draft
2. **APPROVED** the public and partner consultation process outlined in paragraph 14 of the report from the Corporate Manager (Planning and New Communities) relating to the release of the consultation draft of the Council's new Climate Change Action Plan 2010-13, subject to minor variation (including extension) should there be any slippage that might result in the consultation period covering August; and
3. **DELEGATED** to the Corporate Manager (Planning and New Communities) approval of the finalised draft for consultation release, scheduled for the week beginning 24 May 2010.

*Decision taken 20 May 2010 and published 21 May 2010. Call-in expires at 5 pm on Friday 28 May 2010. Decision can be implemented from 1 June 2010 if not called-in.*

**8. Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Reform - Consultation (recommendation to Council)**

The Housing Portfolio Holder recommended to Council that:

1. it accepts in principle the proposal by the Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG) to proceed to voluntary implementation of self-financing for council housing subject, most importantly, to further serious consideration being given by CLG to South Cambridgeshire District Council's special circumstances
2. it endorses the full response to the consultation prospectus as set out in Appendix A to the report from Senior Management Team.

*Not for call-in: will be determined by [Council on 27 May 2010](#).*

**9. ORCHARD PARK: Self-Commissioned Housing**

The New Communities Portfolio Holder **NOTED** the contents of the report from the Corporate Manager (Planning and New Communities), and **AGREED** that:

1. New planning policies should continue to take a positive approach towards self-commissioned housing, including enabled co-housing;
2. Officers should continue to work collaboratively with Cambridge City Council in the next stage of work for site K1 at Orchard Park – to include setting up a Self-Providers Forum, soft-market testing and, subject to the outcome of the market testing, procurement of a development partner for an Enabled Co-Housing Project;
3. Sites within South Cambridgeshire deemed suitable for self-commissioned housing be included in the soft-market testing of the K1 project, subject to agreement with the relevant landowner or developer.

*Decision taken 20 May 2010 and published 21 May 2010. Call-in expires at 5 pm on Friday 28 May 2010. Decision can be implemented from 1 June 2010 if not called-in.*

**10. Revision of Process and Guidance Notes for Sustainable Communities Capital Grants Programme**

The New Communities Portfolio Holder **APPROVED** revised guidance notes for the Sustainable Communities Capital Grants Programme as attached in

- Appendix 1 – Community Facility Grants
- Appendix 2 – Play Facility Grants
- Appendix 3 – Village Sports Facility Grants
- Appendix 4 – Youth Sport Initiative Grants

- Appendix 5 – Arts Capital Grants

*Decision taken 20 May 2010 and published 21 May 2010. Call-in expires at 5 pm on Friday 28 May 2010. Decision can be implemented from 1 June 2010 if not called-in.*

**11. St Edmundsbury Borough Council Local Development Framework: development management policies submission draft, and rural site allocations preferred options**

The New Communities Portfolio Holder **AGREED** that South Cambridgeshire District Council should support the inclusion of Policy HH9 (Sites for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople) in St Edmundsbury Borough Council's Development Management Policies Draft Submission document.

*Decision taken 20 May 2010 and published 21 May 2010. Call-in expires at 5 pm on Friday 28 May 2010. Decision can be implemented from 1 June 2010 if not called-in.*

**12. WILLINGHAM: Access over Brickhills - sale price of easement**

The Housing Portfolio Holder **DEFERRED** making a decision about the developer's revised offer of £73,500 for the grant of vehicular access over Brickhills, Willingham to serve a proposed development of 19 dwellings on adjacent land, pending a further officer report to a future Housing Portfolio Holder meeting analysing and explaining discrepancies between the various land valuation figures received, clarifying the housing mix of market and affordable housing, and reflecting any comments made by the Planning Committee as a result of the planning application being considered on [2 June 2010](#).

*Not for call-in.*

**OTHER INFORMATION**

**13. Newly-Published Items on modern.gov**

**Agendas**

- Executive Management Team 26 May 2010 (intranet only)
- Senior Management Team 26 May 2010 (intranet only)

**Decisions**

- [Housing Portfolio Holder's meeting 19 May 2010](#)
- [Planning and New Communities Portfolio Holders' joint meeting 20 May 2010](#)

**Minutes**

- [Planning Committee 12 May 2010](#)
- [Cabinet 13 May 2010](#)
- Senior Management Team 13 May 2010 (intranet only)

**Library Items**

- [Annual Return to Standards for England 2010](#)
- [Members' Allowances Paid 2009/10](#)
- [Standards Committee Newsletter Spring 2010](#)

**14. Upcoming Training Sessions for Members**

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Trainer:</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Contact:</b>
Planning – full day course	Monday 21 June 2010 from 10 am	Trevor Roberts Associates	All members / substitute members of Planning	<a href="#">Patrick Adams</a>



				Committee who have not attended a Planning Training course since 2008	
	Planning refresher – half-day course	Monday 21 June 2010 from 2 pm	Trevor Roberts Associates	All members / substitute members of Planning Committee who attended the Planning training on 2 September 2008	<a href="#">Patrick Adams</a>
	Employment Committee	mid-June (date to be advised by e-mail)	ABA Consultants	All members / substitute members of Employment Committee	<a href="#">Patrick Adams</a>

**15. SCDC Starters and Leavers**

**Leavers**

Roger Cooper, Multi Skilled Operative, will be leaving on 31 May 2010.  
Deborah Williams, Payroll Assistant, left on 21 May 2010.

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### Parish Council Questionnaires

Thank you to all the Parish Councils who completed the questionnaire we sent in March – the Parish Liaison Working Group will use the responses to develop the 2010/11 training programme.

### Local Assessment of Allegations 2009/10

Now that we've come to the end of a civic year, we've had a chance to look back at the allegations we've received and have noticed two main themes:

#### 1) **Declaring Interests – Personal / Prejudicial and Planning Matters**

A fair number of complaints we've received relate to the declaration of interests when considering planning applications, so we wanted to provide a bit of clarification and some guidance.

**Personal Interests:** You have a personal interest in a matter:

- when it relates to or is likely to affect any of the interests you have declared on your written registration of interests

or

- where the matter would affect the well-being or financial position of you, your family members, or any people or bodies with whom you have a close association (which could include friends and business colleagues) **to a greater extent than other residents in your village.**

#### What do I do?

Personal interests must be declared as soon as it becomes apparent during the meeting that you have a personal interest – you must also declare the nature of the interest. Just saying that you have a personal interest isn't enough: you must also say what the interest is and ensure that it is recorded correctly in the minutes. If we get an allegation that someone has failed to declare an interest, we'll immediately ask for the minutes of the meeting in question. If the minutes state simply "Cllr X declared an interest", there's insufficient documentary evidence for the Local Assessment Panel to feel satisfied that there was no potential breach of the Code of Conduct, and it may recommend that the matter proceed to an investigation.

**Key learning point: Investigations, whilst necessary to establish what did or did not occur, can be time-consuming and stressful for everyone involved – and expensive. If interests are declared properly and minuted accurately, matters might not even progress as far as an allegation.**

**Prejudicial Interests:** A personal interest becomes prejudicial if it:

- affects your financial interests or is about a regulatory matter – that is, if it relates to planning, licensing or employment issues

and

- a member of the public, who knows the relevant facts, would reasonably think that your personal interest is so significant that it is likely to prejudice your judgement of the matter.

#### What do I do?

You must declare that you have a prejudicial interest and the nature of that interest. If members of the public are allowed to speak at the meeting, you may make representations, give evidence or answer questions about the matter, but you must leave the room immediately after you have finished speaking – or if the committee decides that you have finished – whichever is earlier. If there is no right for the public to speak at the meeting, you must leave immediately after declaring your interest.

As before, please ensure that your declaration and the nature of your interest are recorded accurately in the minutes. Although the decision whether or not you have an interest is solely up to you, the test which the Local Assessment Panel will apply if it receives any allegations



about a failure to declare an interest and act appropriately, is to consider what a member of the public would think about your ability to reach a decision – or to influence others to reach a particular outcome – when it is known that you have an interest.

**Key learning point: In a nutshell, if it relates to a planning application, your personal interest will almost certainly be considered prejudicial, as it's unlikely that the proverbial Joe Public will believe that you will be completely impartial when making representations on a planning application which affects the interests of you or someone close to you.**

**2) *Councillors and the internet: e-mail, blogs, social media, on-line forums, etc.***

Using the internet, blogging, chat rooms and other forms of social media like Facebook, Twitter and on-line forums is a great way for local councillors to keep in touch with residents, to stay up-dated on issues of local interest, and to engage with constituents who might not normally access local government and council information. The Standards Committee wants to emphasise that the Code of Conduct isn't meant to stifle free speech – but also wants to advise all councillors to be careful not to fall into potential breaches by saying something in haste on in a public forum from which it quickly gets forwarded.

The Code of Conduct can apply to anything you are posting on-line if you are acting – or, crucially, **giving the impression that you are acting** – in your official role as a councillor. Even if you intended your comments to be seen as having been made in a personal capacity – and even if you have concluded all your remarks with words to that effect – when you are discussing the business of your authority, you are almost certainly giving the impression that you are acting as a councillor and the Code of Conduct will apply.

The Information & Development Agency (IDeA) has published an excellent guide to Councillors and Social Media, a hard copy of which is included with this newsletter, and we encourage you to read through it. There's great advice on how to get started building your public profile on-line, how to engage residents, campaigning, local authority considerations like having a social media policy – and a section on danger zones – potential legal issues like libel, copyright, data protection, bias and pre-determination, obscene material, election periods, and how the Code of Conduct applies.

Standards for England has published the useful Blogging Quick Guide which was sent to all Parish Clerks with the SCDC Weekly Bulletin of 3 March 2010. See [www.tinyurl.com/blogstandards](http://www.tinyurl.com/blogstandards)

**Local Government Chronicle Awards**

In our previous newsletter we announced that we had been shortlisted in the standards and ethics category at the Local Government Chronicle awards. Three of us made a presentation to the judges at the end of January, and we attended the awards ceremony at the end of March. Although we did not come home with the big prize, having seen the quality of work demonstrated by the five other shortlisted authorities, the cliché was certainly true: it really was an honour to be nominated.



**We're here to help – if you need further information, please get in touch.** *Contact details for the Standards Committee are available on the Committee's website, [www.scams.gov.uk/standards](http://www.scams.gov.uk/standards), or by contacting:*

Fiona McMillan  
Deputy Monitoring Officer, SCDC  
01954 713027  
[fiona.mcmillan@scams.gov.uk](mailto:fiona.mcmillan@scams.gov.uk)

Holly Adams  
Democratic Services Team Leader, SCDC  
01954 713030  
[holly.adams@scams.gov.uk](mailto:holly.adams@scams.gov.uk)