

## STANDARDS COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 5 APRIL 2012

### DECISIONS

Set out below is a summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Standards Committee held on Thursday, 5 April 2012. The wording used does not necessarily reflect the actual wording that will appear in the minutes.

If you have any queries about any matters referred to in this decision sheet please contact Holly Adams.

**1. COTON PARISH COUNCIL: REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION**

The Standards Committee **AGREED** to grant a dispensation until 30 June 2012 to Coton Parish Councillor David Cairns, with the reminder that he is still to declare an interest in any matters concerning Coton Recreation Ground Trust, and to declare that he has received a dispensation for that interest.

**2. FUTURE OF STANDARDS (LOCALISM ACT 2011)**

The Standards Committee:

- (a) **NOTED** the first draft of a procedure for complaints under the new Code of Conduct which may be subject to further amendments before a finalised version was recommended for adoption;
- (b) **ENDORSED** the proposal to delegate to the Monitoring Officer the responsibility of undertaking a joint exercise to recruit an Independent Person(s) with the other councils in Cambridgeshire, subject to the approval of Full Council;
- (c) **NOTED** that transitional provisions were likely to be made to ensure that existing Independent Members were eligible to apply for the position of Independent Person(s) at South Cambridgeshire District Council;
- (d) **INDICATED** that it preferred the draft Cambridgeshire Councils Model Code of Conduct to the Local Government Association Model Code of Conduct;
- (e) **PROVISIONALLY APPROVED** the draft Cambridgeshire Model Code as the version of the Council's new Code of Conduct for Elected Members that would be recommended to Full Council subject to a further report/amendments once the Code has been issued in its final format;
- (f) **NOTED** that a further report would be brought to a future meeting once the Regulations were published;
- (g) **NOTED** that it might be necessary to convene a special meeting of Full Council to comply with the statutory timescales; and
- (h) **AGREED** that an additional meeting of Standards Committee be held on Thursday 10 May to enable recommendations to Council be able to be made.