

**MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY  
STANDARDS COMMITTEE  
THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2012**

**PRESENT:** Independent Members Carole Roberts (Chair), Linda Phillips, Keith Pickup, Councillors Dave Hanratty, Eddie Clein and Lesley Rennie.

Apologies for absence were received from:  
Councillors Andrew Blackburn, Ian Lewis, Ted Grannell and Ian Jones and Barbara Murray.

**1. Preliminary Matters**

The Authority considered if there were any declarations of interest, matters of urgency or any items of which may require the exclusion of the press and public.

- (a) there were no declarations of interest made in relation to any item of business on the agenda.
- (b) there were no additional items determined as a matter of urgency.
- (c) there were no items of business which required the exclusion of the press and public due to the disclosure of exempt information.

**2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting of the committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2011 were submitted for approval as a correct record and signed accordingly by the Chair.

**3. Review of the Forward Work Plan for the Standards Committee  
(CFO/017/12)**

Members considered report CFO/017/12 of the Clerk to the Authority concerning revising dates for the forward work planning for the Standards Committee due to the impending changes expected by the Localism Act 2011.

Members resolved that:

- (a) the contents of this report relating to the Localism Act 2011 be noted and
- (b) the Monitoring Officer be instructed to provide a further report to this Committee when the sections of the Act relevant to the Standards regime are ready to be brought into force.

4. **The Localism Act 2011: Implications for Standards Regime**  
(CFO/009/12)

Members considered report CFO/009/12 of the Clerk to the Authority concerning the implications of the Localism Act 2011 for the Standards Regime.

Members resolved that:

- (a) the implications of the Standards regime be noted.
- (b) the adoption of the draft Code of Conduct at Appendix A, subject to any amendments by other Authorities be recommended to the Authority.
- (c) a Merseyside wide adoption of the code be encouraged with other Authorities.
- (d) the retention of the current Register of Interests until such time as there may be regulations published relating to pecuniary interests be recommended to the Authority.
- (e) the present system of having a Standards Committee meeting on a regular basis with new subcommittees consisting of the three Group Leaders and an external Independent Member to consider any complaints be the option recommended to the Authority.

Close

Date of the Next Meeting: 15<sup>th</sup> March 2012