

Standards Committee

Composition

1. Membership of the Standards Committee

- a. The Standards Committee shall comprise nine Members of the Council
- b. The Chairman and Vice Chairman shall be appointed by the Council in accordance with the Council's Procedure rules in Part 4 of the Constitution.
- c. the Council may co-opt up to two parish / town council representatives from a parish/town council in the Borough

2. Membership of Sub-committees of the Standards Committee

- The Standards Committee shall appoint sub-committees of three members to deal with specific standards complaints
- Sub-committees will consult (where co-opted) parish / town councillors in decisions relating to town or parish councillors

3. Quorum for the Standards Committee and its sub-committees:

- **Three** members for the duration of the meeting.

4. Roles and functions of the Standards Committee

- a. To promote and maintain high standards of conduct by Councillors and co-opted Members;
- b. To assist Councillors and co-opted Members to observe the Members' Code of Conduct;
- c. To advise the Council on the adoption or revision of the Members' Code of Conduct, and on matters relating to the ethical conduct of the Council and its Members;
- d. To advise and train Councillors and co-opted Members on matters relating to the Code of Conduct;

- e. To grant dispensations to Borough Councillors (and where relevant, co-opted Members to the Borough Council) from requirements relating to Disclosable Pecuniary interests in the following circumstances:
 - i. Where many members of the decision-making body have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest that Political balance would be affected
 - ii. It is in the interests of the inhabitants that a dispensation be granted or
 - iii. It is appropriate to grant a dispensation
1. To consult the Independent Person(s) in relation to matters referred for investigation and hearings
2. To consider complaints alleging a breach of the Code of Conduct by Borough Councillors (and any co-opted members where relevant) and those members of town and parish councils in the Borough of West Devon.
3. To receive Investigation reports and to carry out hearings in respect of allegations of misconduct for Borough members (and co-opted members where relevant) and town/parish council members and to recommend sanctions or other recommendations/actions

Roles and functions of the Standards sub-committees

- To consider complaints alleging members' breach of the Code of Conduct; as referred by the Monitoring Officer
- To receive investigation reports and carry out Hearings in respect of allegations of misconduct

Budget

To have authority for spending within the allocated budget.

Annual Review

The Standards Committee shall report annually to Council on its performance and achievements.