

AGENDA
ITEM

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WEST DEVON BOROUGH COUNCIL

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NAME OF COMMITTEE	Standards Committee
DATE	12 July 2011
REPORT TITLE	Annual Monitoring Report of the Standards Committee 2010/11
REPORT OF	Deputy Monitoring Officer
WARDS AFFECTED	All

Summary of report:

To present the Standards Committee's Annual Report to the Standards Committee with recommendations to Full Council to note.

Financial implications:

There are resource implications in relation to the increased amount of work arising under the Standards legislation for the Standards Committee Members, Monitoring Officer and Committee Section. Additionally, we cannot anticipate the number and complexity of investigations and, hence, Investigating Officer costs.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Standards Committee recommends that Council considers and notes the Standards Committee's Annual Report for the year 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011.

Officer contact:

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1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 This is the sixth Annual Report of the Standards Committee and its works. The Standards Committee Annual Report is considered best practice and recommended by the Standards Board and auditors.

2. ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

- 2.1 The Annual Report for the financial year 1 April 2010 - 31 March 2011 is attached at Appendix A and covers:

- The role and function of the Standards Committee and its sub committees
- Standards Committee membership
- The work of the Standards Committee and its sub committee meetings throughout this period
- Details of standards complaints received during 2010/11
- Training
- Advice, policy and procedures
- Standards for England publications
- Budget
- Issues for the forthcoming year

3. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The report is necessary to present a summary to the Standards Committee and to Council of the Standards Committee and its works for the financial year 2010/11. Whilst there is no current legal requirement for such a report it is considered best practice by Standards for England and auditors.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are resource implications in relation to the increased amount of work arising under the Standards legislation for the Standards Committee Members, Monitoring Officer, and Committee Section.
- 4.2 Additionally, we cannot anticipate the number and complexity of investigations and, hence, Investigating Officer costs.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT

5.1 The risk management implications are:

Opportunities	Benefits
To ensure that the Council and the public are aware of the role, works and achievements of the Standards Committee for the year 2010/11	To ensure that the Council complies with best practice
Issues/Obstacles/Threats	Control measures/mitigation
That the Council nor the public are aware of the Standards Committee's function and works	Compliance with the law, Standards for England Guidance an best practice to ensure consistency and transparency

6. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Corporate priorities engaged:	Towards Excellence Customer First
Statutory powers:	
Considerations of equality and human rights:	There are no equality considerations arising from this report
Biodiversity considerations:	There are no biodiversity considerations arising from this report
Sustainability considerations:	There are no sustainability considerations arising from this report
Crime and disorder implications:	There are no crime and disorder considerations arising from this report
Background papers:	
Appendices attached:	Appendix A: Standards Committee Annual Report 2010 - 2011