

STANDARDS COMMITTEE – POWERS AND DUTIES
(adopted by Council on 18 May 2006)

1. To promote the maintenance of high standards of conduct within the Authority.
2. To advise the Authority on the adoption or revision of the Members' Code of Conduct and to monitor its operation.
3. To advise, train and arrange to train members and co-opted members on all aspects of the Members' Code of Conduct.
4. To consider the recommendations of case tribunals under Section 80 of the Local Government Act 2000.
5. To consider the reports of the Monitoring Officer on any matter referred by an ethical standards officer.
6. To grant dispensations to councillors and co-opted members from requirements concerning interests in the Members' Code of Conduct.
7. To exercise the above functions for Parish Councils in the District and the members of those Councils.
8. To consider matters of relevance referred to in the Audit Commission's Management Letter or other correspondence from the Audit Commission.
(Note: The Executive Board is responsible for "receiving and considering reports from the District Auditor (including the Management Letter) and agreeing any appropriate action". The Audit and Governance Committee is responsible for "reviewing external audit reports, including value for money reports and annual audit letters, together with the management response".)
9. To oversee the Authority's "whistleblowing" policy.
10. To monitor the Council's handling of complaints and Ombudsman investigations.
(Note: The Executive Board is responsible for "administering the corporate complaints procedure".)
11. To monitor the Register of Members' Interests.
12. To maintain and apply the Protocol on Member/Officer Relations in Part 6 of the Constitution.
13. To advise on the adoption, revision and application of any codes of practice or guidance relating to the conduct of members.