

## STANDARDS COMMITTEE

5.30 P.M.

13TH DECEMBER 2017

**PRESENT:-** Councillors Oscar Thynne (Chairman), Jon Barry, Colin Hartley, David Whitaker, Peter Yates and Nigel Goodrich (substitute for Councillor Mace)

Apologies for Absence

Councillor Mace

Officers in attendance:-

Debbie Chambers	Deputy Monitoring Officer & Democratic Services Manager
Liz Bateson	Principal Democratic Support Officer

### 12 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Deputy Monitoring Officer advised the meeting that if any of the Standards Committee were associates or close friends of the complainant it would not be appropriate for them to take part in the discussions.

Councillor Yates informed the meeting that whilst he had met the complainant he did not regard him as either a friend or a business acquaintance and he did not consider this a conflict of interest.

Councillor Barry sought clarification because as a former Cabinet member he had been mentioned in the background papers. The Deputy Monitoring Officer confirmed that as the Committee was meeting purely to agree a response to the complaint it was not necessary for him to leave the meeting.

### 13 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

That, in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business, on the grounds that it could involve the possible disclosure of exempt information, as defined in paragraphs 1 & 2 of Schedule 12A of that Act.

### 14 TO AGREE TO A RESPONSE TO A COMPLAINT FROM A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC (Pages 3 - 4)

The Deputy Monitoring Officer introduced the report and explained that the Standards Committee had been convened to agree a response to a complaint that had been addressed to the Standards Committee from a member of the public.

The Deputy Monitoring Officer confirmed the role of the Standards Committee was to consider complaints made against elected Members and, as the complaint had been made against Officers, the Committee had no remit to consider the complaint.

The Committee discussed and agreed to the wording of a response that the Chairman

would forward to the complainant.

Further details and the wording of the response are set out in a minute exempt from publication by virtue of Paragraphs 1 & 2 of Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

**Resolved:**

- (1) That the Chairman forward the agreed response, as set out in the exempt minute, to the complainant.

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Chairman

(The meeting ended at 6.06 p.m.)

**Any queries regarding these Minutes, please contact  
Liz Bateson, Democratic Services - telephone 01524 582047, or email  
ebateson@lancaster.gov.uk**

By virtue of paragraph(s) 1, 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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