



Meeting Agenda

**Standards Committee
Meeting Room (Town Hall Foyer)
Town Hall, St Annes
Wednesday 20 May 2009, 7:00pm**

**The maximum capacity for this meeting room is 60 persons –
once this limit is reached no other person can be admitted.**

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIP

CHAIRMAN - Mr D Birchall

VICE CHAIRMAN – Councillor Brenda Ackers

Councillor Paul Hayhurst

Mr H Butler

Councillor Howard Henshaw

Linda Burn

Councillor Kevin Eastham

Mr A Marsh

Roy Male

Glynn Driver

Richard Nulty

Contact: Peter Welsh, St. Annes (01253) 658502
Email: peterw@fylde.gov.uk



Our Vision

To establish Fylde Borough Council as a high performing local authority

Our Corporate Objectives

To improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of our communities through:

- The promotion and enhancement of the natural built environment
- Increasing the availability and access to good quality housing for all
- Maintaining healthy and safe communities to reduce the fear of crime
- Supporting and sustaining a strong and diverse Fylde coast economy to further enhance employment prospects

We will achieve this by:

Focusing on customer requirements
Clear community and organisational leadership
Delivering high quality, cost-effective services
Partnership working



A G E N D A

PART I - MATTERS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE

ITEM	PAGE
1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: <i>if a member requires advice on declarations of interest he/she is advised to contact the Monitoring Officer in advance of the meeting. (for the assistance of members an extract from the councils code of conduct is attached).</i>	4
2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: <i>to confirm as a correct record the minutes of the standards committee held on 2 December 2008 attached at the end of the agenda.</i>	4
3. SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS: <i>details of any substitute members notified in accordance with council procedure rule 26.3</i>	4
4. STANDARDS BOARD ANNUAL RETURN	7-16
5. COMPLAINTS TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE: STATISTICS	17-19

Personal interests

8.—(1) You have a personal interest in any business of your authority where either—

(a) it relates to or is likely to affect—

- (i) any body of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management and to which you are appointed or nominated by your authority;
- (ii) any body—
 - (aa) exercising functions of a public nature;
 - (bb) directed to charitable purposes; or
 - (cc) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union),

of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management;

- (i) any employment or business carried on by you;
 - (ii) any person or body who employs or has appointed you;
 - (iii) any person or body, other than a relevant authority, who has made a payment to you in respect of your election or any expenses incurred by you in carrying out your duties;
 - (iv) any person or body who has a place of business or land in your authority's area, and in whom you have a beneficial interest in a class of securities of that person or body that exceeds the nominal value of £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital (whichever is the lower);
 - (v) any contract for goods, services or works made between your authority and you or a firm in which you are a partner, a company of which you are a remunerated director, or a person or body of the description specified in paragraph (vi);
 - (vi) the interests of any person from whom you have received a gift or hospitality with an estimated value of at least £25;
 - (vii) any land in your authority's area in which you have a beneficial interest;
 - (viii) any land where the landlord is your authority and you are, or a firm in which you are a partner, a company of which you are a remunerated director, or a person or body of the description specified in paragraph (vi) is, the tenant;
 - (xi) any land in the authority's area for which you have a licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy for 28 days or longer; or
- (b) a decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting your well-being or financial position or the well-being or financial position of a relevant person to a greater extent than the majority of other council tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward, as the case may be, affected by the decision;

(2) In sub-paragraph (1)(b), a relevant person is—

- (a) a member of your family or any person with whom you have a close association; or
- (b) any person or body who employs or has appointed such persons, any firm in which they are a partner, or any company of which they are directors;
- (c) any person or body in whom such persons have a beneficial interest in a class of securities exceeding the nominal value of £25,000; or
- (d) any body of a type described in sub-paragraph (1)(a)(i) or (ii).

Disclosure of personal interests

- 9.—(1)** Subject to sub-paragraphs (2) to (7), where you have a personal interest in any business of your authority and you attend a meeting of your authority at which the business is considered, you must disclose to that meeting the existence and nature of that interest at the commencement of that consideration, or when the interest becomes apparent.
- (2) Where you have a personal interest in any business of your authority which relates to or is likely to affect a person described in paragraph 8(1)(a)(i) or 8(1)(a)(ii)(aa), you need only disclose to the meeting the existence and nature of that interest when you address the meeting on that business.
- (3) Where you have a personal interest in any business of the authority of the type mentioned in paragraph 8(1)(a)(viii), you need not disclose the nature or existence of that interest to the meeting if the interest was registered more than three years before the date of the meeting.
- (4) Sub-paragraph (1) only applies where you are aware or ought reasonably to be aware of the existence of the personal interest.

- (5) Where you have a personal interest but, by virtue of paragraph 14, sensitive information relating to it is not registered in your authority's register of members' interests, you must indicate to the meeting that you have a personal interest, but need not disclose the sensitive information to the meeting.
- (6) Subject to paragraph 12(1)(b), where you have a personal interest in any business of your authority and you have made an executive decision in relation to that business, you must ensure that any written statement of that decision records the existence and nature of that interest.
- (7) In this paragraph, "executive decision" is to be construed in accordance with any regulations made by the Secretary of State under section 22 of the Local Government Act 2000(d).

Prejudicial interest generally

- 10.—**(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), where you have a personal interest in any business of your authority you also have a prejudicial interest in that business where the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest.
- (2) You do not have a prejudicial interest in any business of the authority where that business—
- (a) does not affect your financial position or the financial position of a person or body described in paragraph 8;
 - (b) does not relate to the determining of any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration in relation to you or any person or body described in paragraph 8; or
 - (c) relates to the functions of your authority in respect of—
 - (i) housing, where you are a tenant of your authority provided that those functions do not relate particularly to your tenancy or lease;
 - (ii) school meals or school transport and travelling expenses, where you are a parent or guardian of a child in full time education, or are a parent governor of a school, unless it relates particularly to the school which the child attends;
 - (iii) statutory sick pay under Part XI of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992, where you are in receipt of, or are entitled to the receipt of, such pay;
 - (iv) an allowance, payment or indemnity given to members;
 - (v) any ceremonial honour given to members; and
 - (vi) setting council tax or a precept under the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

Prejudicial interests arising in relation to overview and scrutiny committees

- 11.—** You also have a prejudicial interest in any business before an overview and scrutiny committee of your authority (or of a sub-committee of such a committee) where—
- (a) that business relates to a decision made (whether implemented or not) or action taken by your authority's executive or another of your authority's committees, sub-committees, joint committees or joint sub-committees; and
 - (b) at the time the decision was made or action was taken, you were a member of the executive, committee, sub-committee, joint committee or joint sub-committee mentioned in paragraph (a) and you were present when that decision was made or action was taken.

Effect of prejudicial interests on participation

- 12.—**(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), where you have a prejudicial interest in any business of your authority—
- (a) you must withdraw from the room or chamber where a meeting considering the business is being held—
 - (i) in a case where sub-paragraph (2) applies, immediately after making representations, answering questions or giving evidence;
 - (ii) in any other case, whenever it becomes apparent that the business is being considered at that meeting;
 unless you have obtained a dispensation from your authority's standards committee;
 - (b) you must not exercise executive functions in relation to that business; and
 - (c) you must not seek improperly to influence a decision about that business.
- (2) Where you have a prejudicial interest in any business of your authority, you may attend a meeting (including a meeting of the overview and scrutiny committee of your authority or of a sub-committee of such a committee) but only for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the business, provided that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose, whether under a statutory right or otherwise.

REPORT



REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
CORPORATE RESOURCES	STANDARDS COMMITTEE	20 MAY 2009	4

STANDARDS BOARD ANNUAL RETURN

Public Item

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

Summary

The council has filed its annual return to the Standards Board for England. Members are asked to consider its contents.

Recommendation

1. Note the annual return.
2. Instruct the Monitoring Officer to report the annual return to the council.

Report

1. The Standards Board for England require each Standards Committee to file a return each year. The Monitoring Officer has just filed the annual return for Fylde Borough Council.
2. The return is filed on-line and consists of a number of questions about the activities of the Standards Committee within the year. The questions give a good indication about the areas which the Board considers standards committees should be involved in.
3. Fylde's annual return is attached. Members may wish to discuss how to take forward the work of the committee with regard to the areas of involvement indicated by the questions for the annual return
4. The Standards Board recommend that the annual return be reported to the Standards Committee and the full council.

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	None
Legal	None
Community Safety	None
Human Rights and Equalities	None
Sustainability	None
Health & Safety and Risk Management	None

Report Author	Tel	Date	Doc ID
Ian Curtis	(01253) 658506	7 May 2009	

List of Background Papers		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
Annual return	6 May 2009	Town Hall, St Annes

Attached documents

1. Annual return 2009

Annual return

Submitted As Final

Summary

Section 1	Independent overview
Section 2	Standards committee - annual report
Section 3	Standards committee - promoting standards
Section 4	Standards committee - training
Section 5	Leadership
Section 6	Complaints
Section 7	Member officer - relations
Section 8	Registering member interests
Section 9	Officer conduct
Section 10	Optional questions

Independent overview

Does the standards committee have Terms of Reference?

Yes

What help do members receive on following the Code of Conduct?

Members are offered training on the code of conduct following an election or by-election. Training is also offered when changes are made to the code. The Monitoring Officer and his deputy are available to answer specific questions on code issues. The Monitoring Officer will provide email alerts to members on particular ethical issues if there seems to be a need. The chairman may write to members in similar circumstances.

Does the standards committee have a forward work plan?

No

Is the standards committee given a role in reviewing amendments to the Authority's Constitution (or Standing Orders where appropriate)?

No

Standards committee meetings.

Please use the table below to indicate how many times between 01/04/2008 and 31/03/2009 the standards committee has met and for what reasons.

Reason for meeting	Number of times met between 01/04/2008 and 31/03/2009
General meeting of whole standards committee	2
Training	1
Assessment sub-committee	6
Review sub-committee	2
Consideration meeting	0
Hearing	0
Other	0

Standards committee - annual report

Does the standards committee produce an annual report on its own work?

Yes

Is the annual report received by a meeting of the full authority?

Yes

Is the annual report sent to all members?

Yes

Is the annual report sent to all senior officers?

No

How is the annual report publicised to the general public?

It is published as part of the agenda for the council meeting. It is also available on the council's website.

Standards committee - promoting standards

What else does the standards committee do to communicate the role of the standards committee and the importance of high standards internally within the authority to members and officers?

The standards pages on the council's website have been rewritten and redesigned to explain the committee's new role and to make it easy for members of the public to submit complaints. The council has introduced a dedicated email address and postal address for complaints about councillors, together with links to the website of the Standards Board.

What else has the standards committee done to promote confidence in local democracy to the wider public?

Has the authority, or the standards committee in particular, considered how it will monitor and ensure high standards of behaviour when the authority is working in partnership with other organisations?

Yes

Please provide examples.

The council's corporate governance arrangements, as documented by its Code of Corporate Governance and Annual Governance Statement, have high standards of behaviour at their heart. The council has adopted a partnership protocol which requires each new and renewed partnership arrangement to be subjected to a rigorous analysis of its arrangements for maintaining high ethical standards.

Standards committee - training

Between 01/04/2008 and 31/03/2009, has the authority assessed the training and development needs of members in relation to their responsibilities on standards of conduct?

Yes

What training needs were identified?

The council systematically assesses the training needs of its members each year by personally interviewing them and preparing and updating a personal development plan for each of them.

Please provide a list of training and development opportunities that have been provided to members and officers in the period from 01/04/2008 and 31/03/2009, that are relevant to ensuring high standards. Your list should include any training that relates to the operation of the local standards framework, e.g. local assessment, hearings etc.

The council's main training provision for members takes the form of the "Learning Hour", which is open to all members. During 2008-9, the following Learning Hours

relevant to ensuring high standards have been presented (each facilitated or co-facilitated by the Monitoring Officer): The Governance Framework Understanding Standing Orders Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act Making Your Point: Refresher on council procedures and rules.

Leadership

How often has the standards committee, or its chair, met the chief executive to discuss ethical issues in the last 12 months (from 01/04/2008 to 31/03/2009)?

One

Please also provide an overview of what the meetings were about.

To discuss issues arising from a meeting of the full council where controversial budgetary proposals were discussed in an atmosphere of contention.

How often has the standards committee, or its chair, met the leader of the council to discuss ethical issues in the last 12 months (from 01/04/2008 to 31/03/2009)?

None

Please also provide an overview of what the meetings were about.

How often has the standards committee, or its chair, met the other party group leaders to discuss ethical issues in the last 12 months (from 01/04/2008 to 31/03/2009)?

None

Please also provide an overview of what the meetings were about.

Does the standards committee, or its chair, have regular access to the monitoring officer?
How regular?

Yes. The Chair is in regular telephone and personal contact with the Monitoring Officer. The Monitoring Officer can be contacted by phone, email, post or by personal visit by any member of the Standards Committee. The Monitoring Officer is the chief adviser to and administrator of the Standards Committee.

How many times in the last 12 months (from 01/04/2008 to 31/03/2009) has the standards committee chair been invited to address a full authority meeting?

None

Does the monitoring officer sit on the Corporate Management Team, or equivalent?

Yes

Has an executive member (or senior member where appropriate) been given portfolio responsibility for standards?

Yes

Complaints

Can the public access information, from the authority website, about how to make a complaint against a member?

Yes

What else has the authority done to advertise the complaint process on member conduct to the general public?

The council has a dedicated email address and postal address for complaints about councillors. Plans to produce leaflets have had to be shelved due to financial constraints.

Has the authority sought feedback from any of those people involved in an allegation of member misconduct about their satisfaction with the member conduct complaint process (for example the complainant, witnesses or person against whom the allegation was made)? Please choose from responses below.

No, have not sought feedback

How does the authority communicate the outcome of investigations into member conduct to:

a) members

Through reports to the Standards Committee, which are distributed to all members.

b) officers

No investigations have yet been completed. Consideration will be given to publicising the results of complaints in the council's internal newsletter.

c) the general public

No investigations have yet been completed. Consideration will be given to issuing press releases and posting on the council's website, as well as following the statutory requirements.

How does the authority communicate the outcome of allegations into member conduct which have NOT resulted in an investigation (for example those allegations which have not been referred for investigation and those allegations which have resulted in other action) to:

a) members

Anonymised information in reports to the Standards Committee.

b) officers

Not specifically communicated.

c) the general public

Decision records are kept available for public inspection.

Member officer relations

Does the authority have a protocol for relations between members and officers?

Yes

How is the protocol communicated to officers and members?

The protocol is posted on the council's internet and intranet site.

What is the mechanism for reviewing the effectiveness of this protocol?

The protocol forms part of the council's constitution. The constitution is reviewed annually by the Audit Committee and the Monitoring Officer

Does the authority include training on the importance of high standards of behaviour in the inductions of new members and officers?

Yes

Does the authority have informal mechanisms for dealing with member/officer and member/member disputes?

Yes

Please provide details of any mechanisms and, if possible, provide an example where this has been used.

The Monitoring Officer would attempt to use his good offices to reach a mutually acceptable settlement.

Registering member interests

Is the member register of interests accessible to the public on the authority website?

No

Please briefly explain whether there is any particular reason why not.

In the past, this has never been a priority task. There is now legal doubt about data protection issues that would be involved.

Is the register of gifts and hospitality available to the public on the authority website?

No

What does the authority do to signal to members the importance of declaring interests and completing the register of interests and the register of gifts and hospitality?

Induction training for all new members emphasises the importance of such declarations and registers, and provided practical advice on how to comply with the requirements.

Officer conduct

Does the authority have a code of conduct for senior officers?

Yes

Does the authority compile a register of senior officers' interests?

Yes

If yes, is the register of senior officers' interests available to the public on the authority website?

No

Does the authority compile a register of senior officers' gifts and hospitality?

Yes

If yes, is the senior officers' register of gifts and hospitality available to the public on the authority website?

No

Optional questions

The following questions are optional; you do not have to complete them if you do not wish to. However, this information would be useful to us in helping us to raise ethical standards.

On what issues, if any, would you appreciate more support or guidance on from the Standards Board for England?

More user-friendly guidance and templates. The present guidance and templates seem to

concentrate disproportionately on issues and situations that are unlikely to arise, making it difficult for monitoring officers and recipients of communications based on the templates to understand the essential information in them.

The Standards Board for England, the Improvement and Development Agency and the Audit Commission have developed a toolkit that authorities can use to assess the ethical governance arrangements in their authority, and also to identify improvements.

Has your authority used the ethical governance toolkit?

No

If no, has your authority considered using the ethical governance toolkit?

No, considered, decided not to use

Expand on response to the above question

The assessment seems to require more commitment in terms of staff time than my small authority can devote to it.

REPORT



REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
CORPORATE RESOURCES	STANDARDS COMMITTEE	20 MAY 2009	5

COMPLAINTS TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE: STATISTICS

Public/Exempt item

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

Summary

There have been fifteen complaints to the Standards Board about 27 borough or parish councillors since the introduction of local filtering last May. Six of these have been referred for investigation.

Recommendation/s

1. Note the statistical information.

Cabinet portfolio

The item falls within the following cabinet portfolio[s]: Corporate Resources and Finance (Councillor Roger Small).

Report

1. Since May 8 last year, the Standards Committee (through its Assessment Sub-Committee) has been responsible for initially assessing complaints and deciding whether to refer them whether to investigate them. This report sets out a statistical breakdown of complaints since then. As members know, the committee covers both Fylde Borough Council and the 15 parish councils within the borough.

2. Since the last meeting, the Standards Board for England has received fifteen¹ complaints about 27 councillors in the Fylde area. Of these councillors, seven are members of the borough council only, fourteen are members of parish councils only and six are members of both the borough and a parish council.
3. The table below sets out the findings on the complaints:

Not referred for investigation: no evidence of a potential breach of the code of conduct	4
Referred to monitoring officer for investigation: Process not yet completed	6
Referred to monitoring officer for alternative action	3
Recently received and waiting for reference to Assessment Sub-Committee	2

4. The table below shows a breakdown of the complaints referred for investigation in Fylde by nature of allegation. (The numbers do not correspond with the number referred for investigation set out in the table above because most complaints make multiple allegations.)

Bringing authority into disrepute	4
Failure to disclose personal interest	1
Disclosure of confidential information	1
Failure to treat others with respect	3
Prejudicial interest	1
Using position to confer or secure an advantage or disadvantage	1
Other	4

¹ For the purposes of this report, a single communication making the same allegation against more than one councillor, or two or more separate communications making the same allegation against the same councillor are each counted as one complaint only, whereas a single communication making separate allegations about two different councillors is counted as two complaints and so forth.

5. The table below breaks down the complaints received at Fylde by source of allegation.

Fellow councillor	1
Council employee	2
Member of the public	12
Other	1

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	None
Legal	None
Community Safety	None
Human Rights and Equalities	None
Sustainability	None
Health & Safety and Risk Management	None

REPORT AUTHOR	TEL	DATE	DOC ID
Ian Curtis	(01253) 658506	8 May 2008	

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS		
NAME OF DOCUMENT	DATE	WHERE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION

Standards Committee



Date	2 December 2008
Venue	Town Hall, St Annes
Committee members	Mr DDE Birchall (Chairman) Councillors Brenda Ackers, Paul Hayhurst, Howard Henshaw A D K (Malaysia), Kevin Eastham Mr A Marsh, Mr R Male, Mr G Driver Parish Councillor Richard Nulty
Others	
Officers	Ian Curtis, Clare Holmes, Christopher Kitchen

1. Declarations of interest

Members were reminded that any personal/prejudicial interests should be declared as required by the Council's Code of Conduct adopted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000.

2. Substitute members

There were no substitute members.

Mr H Butler and Linda Burn sent their apologies.

3. Annual Report

Mr DDE Birchall (Chairman of the Standards Committee) introduced a report that presented the Draft Annual Report to the Committee. The Committee was asked to agree the Draft Annual Report or to make changes to it.

The Draft Annual Report highlighted the Committee's work in 2008 and also looked at the comparisons between Fylde and National Data.

Members raised several questions relating to the Analysis and comment section of the report. It was proposed that the following amendment to the wording be made to the final paragraph on page 11 of the agenda:

We considered the general conduct of that meeting at our meeting in May. While recognising that controversial and important questions were being

discussed, and that passions ran high, we considered that the conduct of the meeting reflected badly on the borough council as a whole.

Following discussion and clarification of the structure of the Sub Committees the Committee RESOLVED to adopt the Draft Annual Report for submission to the Full Council and Town and Parish Clerks.

4. Complaint Against a Councillor: Formal Report on Referral for Other Action

Ian Curtis (Monitoring Officer) introduced a formal report under the relevant regulations of a referral to the Monitoring Officer for action other than an investigation.

Under regulation 13(4)(c) of the regulations, the Monitoring Officer must, within the period of three months or as soon as is reasonably practicable thereafter submit a written report to the Standards Committee giving details of the action taken or proposed, to comply with the direction. This was that formal report.

The committee RESOLVED:

1. To notify the Councillor concerned, the complainants and the relevant Parish Council that the committee is satisfied with the action set out in the report.

5. Proposed Revision to the Code of Conduct: Government Consultation

Ian Curtis (Monitoring Officer) presented a report on the proposed revision to the Code of Conduct. The Government was consulting on proposals to revise its model Code of Conduct. The Committee was asked to respond to the consultation paper.

The Committee discussed the list of consultation questions as detailed below:

1. Do you agree that the members' code of conduct should apply to a member's conduct when acting in their non-official capacity?

The Committee agreed that the members' code of conduct should apply to a member's conduct when acting in their non official capacity.

2. Do you agree with this definition of 'criminal offence' for the purpose of the members' code? If not, what other definition would you support , for instance should it include police cautions?

The Committee agreed with the definition of 'criminal offence' however the Standards Committee would decide on the severity of the crime.

3. Do you agree with this definition of 'official capacity' for the purpose of the members' code? If not, what other definition would you support?

The Committee agreed with the definition of 'official capacity' for the purpose of the members' code.

4. Do you agree that the members' code should only apply where a criminal offence and conviction abroad would have been a criminal offence if committed in the UK?

The Committee agreed that the members' code should only apply where a criminal offence and conviction abroad would have been a criminal offence if committed in the UK.

5. Do you agree that an ethical investigation should not proceed until the criminal process has been completed?

The Committee agreed that an ethical investigation should not proceed until the criminal process had been completed.

6. Do you think that the amendments to the members' code suggested in this chapter are required? Are there any other drafting amendments which would be helpful? If so, please could you provide details of your suggested amendments?

The Committee agreed that the amendments to the members' code were required.

7. Are there any aspects of conduct currently included in the members' code that are not required? If so, please could you specify which aspects and the reasons why you hold this view?

The committee agreed there was no aspects of the members' code that was not required.

8. Are there any aspects of conduct in a member's official capacity not specified in the members' code that should be included?

The Committee agreed that they were no further amendments to make to the members' code.

9. Does the proposed timescale of two months, during which a member must give an undertaking to observe the members' code, starting from the date the authority adopts the code, provide members with sufficient time to undertake to observe the code?

The Committee agreed that proposed timescale of two months was sufficient unless there was exceptional circumstances.

10. Do you agree with the addition of this new general principle, applied specifically to conduct in a member's non-official capacity?

The Committee agreed that they did not agree with the addition of this new general principle, applied specifically to conduct in a member's non-official capacity.

11. Do you agree with this broad definition of 'criminal offence' for the purpose of the General Principles Order? Or do you consider that the 'criminal offence' should be defined differently?

The Committee agreed that there was need for the General Principles Order.

12. Do you agree with this definition of 'official capacity' for the purpose of the General Principles Order?

The Committee agreed that they did not agree with this definition of 'official capacity' for the purpose of the General Principles Order.

RESOLVED:

1. To respond to the consultation paper in as much as it relates to member conduct.

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