



City of Westminster

Standards Committee

Date: Wednesday 9 March 2011

Classification: For General Release

Title: Dispensations from the Members Code of Conduct

Report of: The Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Wards Involved: None

Policy Context: High Ethical Standards

Financial Summary: There are no financial implications

Report Author and Contact Details: Mick Steward
Tel: 7641 3134
Email: msteward@westminster.gov.uk

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Committee, at its last meeting on 15 November 2010, considered a report, a copy of which is attached at Appendix A. The Committee agreed that the matter be deferred for the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to reconsider the guidance attached to the report.
- 1.2 The Head of Legal and Democratic Services has now had the opportunity to consider this further and is proposing an additional paragraph to the guidance as set out in paragraph 3.1 below.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the guidance attached as Appendix B to the report at Appendix A amended as shown in bold and in paragraph 3.1 below be endorsed and issued to all Members of the Council.

3. Background Information

3.1 The background information and other implications remain as set out in the attached report. The Head of Legal and Democratic Services has now had the opportunity to review this further and is proposing an additional paragraph, as set out below:

“5. The Head of Legal and Democratic Services accepts that it is not always a straightforward matter for Members to determine if, even with this guidance, they have a personal, and therefore a prejudicial interest in the circumstances to which this guidance applies. Accordingly, Members who may be in any doubt are urged to contact the Head of Legal and Democratic Services for advice.”

3.2 Accordingly, with the additional paragraph set out above Members are invited to agree the guidance for issue to all Members.

4. Other Implications

4.1 These are set out in the attached report.

**If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the Background Papers please contact: Mick Steward
Tel: 7641 3134; Email: msteward@westminster.gov.uk**

BACKGROUND PAPERS

As set out in Appendix A