

THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA**MEETING OF THE COUNCIL – 8 DECEMBER 2010****REPORT BY THE CHIEF SOLICITOR AND MONITORING OFFICER****CODE OF CONDUCT ON COUNCILLORS' USE OF IT**

The Standards Committee recommends full Council to adopt the attached Code of Conduct on Councillors' Use of IT and agree that this be appended to the existing Members Code of Conduct in the Constitution.

FOR DECISION

1. In July 2010 the Initial Assessment Sub-Committee of the Standards Committee considered a complaint against a Councillor in connection with use of the Council's email system.
2. As a result of this complaint, the Town Clerk and Chief Executive asked for a review of the Members' IT usage policy. He proposed that the policy be amended and attached as a formal appendix to the Members' Code of Conduct. The Initial Assessment Sub-Committee welcomed this proposal and also requested that the revised policy be submitted to the Standards Committee for its comments.
3. The Standards Committee considered the proposed new Code of Conduct on Councillors' Use of IT at its meeting on 25 October and made several helpful suggestions, now incorporated, as to how it might be improved better to reflect the realities of the Councillor role. The Standards Committee recommended that the Members' Code of Conduct be amended by the addition of a requirement to comply with the Code of Conduct on Councillors' Use of IT.
4. If the Council does amend the Members' Code of Conduct, as set out in the above paragraph, it must publish a notice advising of the amendment, make copies of the revised Members' Code of Conduct available for public inspection and send a copy to Standards for England.

Recommendation

5. The Standards Committee recommends Council to adopt the attached Code of Conduct on Councillors' Use of IT and agree that this be appended to the existing Members' Code of Conduct in the Constitution and that the Members' Code of Conduct amended accordingly.

FOR DECISION

LeVerne Parker
Chief Solicitor and Monitoring Officer

Background papers used in the preparation of this report: None

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