

8 June 2023

# BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

**STANDARDS COMMITTEE  
8 JUNE 2023**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY, 8 JUNE 2023 AT  
1400 HOURS IN THE ELLEN PINSENT ROOM, COUNCIL HOUSE, MARGARET ST, BIRMINGHAM**

**PRESENT:** - Steven Jonas in the Chair;

Stephen Atkinson, Councillor Kath Hartley, Councillor Mahmoud Hussain, Councillor Gareth Moore and Councillor Paul Tilsley.

**ALSO PRESENT:** -

Rob Connelly, Deputy Monitoring Officer

Dawanna Campbell, Acting Assistant Practice Manager

**DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interest.

**APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillor Terry Wood, Peter Wiseman, Zubair Khan and Ray Tomkinson

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held 20 April 2023 were agreed

**TRAINING UPDATE**

A verbal update on training was delivered by the Deputy Monitoring Officer (DMO), Robert Connelly.

In discussion the following points were made: -

- Following the training given on making declarations of interest, it was agreed that there was a need to roll this out via the groups.
- There would need to be anywhere between two to four training sessions for the Labour Group due to its size.

**8 June 2023**

- Comments were made that many of the examples at the previous training session had been specific to Planning and the concern was that this would not be relevant to all members which meant they would lose interest. As such the DMO confirmed he had put together a list of examples that had recently occurred in Birmingham which could be subject to discussion.

The Committee were happy for the DMO to roll out the training incorporating the above changes.

In response to a question from the DMO about how long training sessions should take, Cllr Tilsley suggested that it should be curtailed to around 40 minutes. The Chair suggested that if sessions were this short then they could be done in two parts, however, it was further suggested that this could lead to cost and timetabling issues. In addition concerns were raised that potential key areas would have to be omitted and that would have a detrimental impact on the training

The DMO added that he aimed to conduct separate training for Scrutiny Chairs and suggested that he liaise with the Whips and Group Secretaries to roll out the training in line with the needs of the groups.

**RESOLVED: -**

That dates for training sessions with groups and Scrutiny Chairs be identified.

#### **AUTHORITY TO CHAIR AND OFFICERS**

**RESOLVED: -**

‘In an urgent situation between meetings, the Chairman jointly with the relevant Chief Officer has authority to act on behalf of the Committee’.

#### **EXEMPT INFORMATION – POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

The Chair advised that the report at Agenda items 6 and 7 contained exempt information within the meaning of Section 100I of the Local Government Act 1972.

**RESOLVED:**

That in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, which includes exempt information of the category indicated, the public be now excluded from the meeting: -

(Paragraph 1)

The meeting ended at 14:48pm