Report No.

London Borough of Bromley

Agenda Item No.

PART 1 - PUBLIC

Decision Maker: Standards Committee

Date: 7 JUNE 2011

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

Title: MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Contact Officer: Sheila Bennett, Assistant Director, Democratic and Customer Services

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Chief Officer: Mark Bowen, Director of Legal, Democratic and Customer Services

Ward: N/A

1. Reason for report

1.1 **Appendix 1** updates Members on matters arising from previous meetings. 5 "live" matters are listed, the oldest of which dates from March 2010; a number of items have been deferred pending a clearer picture of the implications of the Localism Bill on the standards regime in Bromley.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

2.1 The Committee is invited to consider progress on recommendations made at previous meetings.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Policy/Financial/Legal/Personnel
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	N/A

Corporate Policy

- 1. Policy Status: Existing policy. The Committee receives an update on matters arising from previous meetings at each meeting.
- 2. BBB Priority: Excellent Council.

Financial

- 1. Cost of proposal: No cost
- 2. Ongoing costs: N/A.
- 3. Budget head/performance centre: n/a
- 4. Total current budget for this head: £There is not a budget for the work of the Standards Committee. Any costs need to be met from virements from other Budget Heads.
- 5. Source of funding: Existing budgets

Staff

- 1. Number of staff (current and additional): The Director of Legal, Democratic & Customer Services is designated the Council's Monitoring Officer. The Assistant Director, Democratic and Customer Services, supports the Standards Committee.
- 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: Monitoring the Committee's matters arising takes up to an hour per meeting

Legal

- 1. Legal Requirement: No statutory requirement or Government guidance. The Standards Committee and standards system are requirements of the Local Government Act 2000, as amended by subsequent legislation, most recently by the Local Government & Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, but there is no statutory requirement for this particular report.
- 2. Call-in: Call-in is not applicable. The report does not involve an executive decision.

Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): This report is intended primarily for the benefit of Committee Members.

Ward Councillor Views

- 1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? No.
- 2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: N/A

Appendix 1

Minute Number/Title	Committee Request	<u>Update</u>	Action by	Completion Date
2009/10				1
17. December 2009 - Discussion with Chief Planner	Chief Planner to attend a future meeting to update on outcome of suggestions made	Deferred from March to June meeting	Bob McQuillan	7/6/2010 - completed
38. March 2010 - Minutes and Matters arising	Future agendas to have a matters arising report as a standard item	Implemented June 2010 onwards	Sheila Bennett	7/6/2010 - completed
	Report to November 2010 meeting on ethical standards framework, with committee members providing good practice examples for consideration	Deferred pending further consideration of proposed legislation affecting the Standards regime (Localism Bill, published mid-December 2010)	Mark Bowen/Sheila Bennett	Tba
41 – March 2010 – Discussion with Liberal Democrat Group Leader	Member Officer protocol promotion to be considered as part of next communications plan revision	Communication plan work deferred pending further consideration of proposed legislation affecting the Standards regime	Sheila Bennett	Tba
42 – Assistant Chief Executive – Human Resources	ACE (HR) to present staff survey findings to a future meeting of the Committee	Outcomes of staff working group on action planning yet to be produced. Informal meeting held with Chairman and other independent members, feedback included in Monitoring Officers's General Report elsewhere on this agenda	Charles Obazuaye	March 2011 - completed
43 – Monitoring Officer's General Report	MO to investigate feasibility of closer joint	Further information awaited	Mark Bowen	Tba

	working with other authorities MO and Chairman to pursue changes to future make-up of independent member appointment Panels, to allow greater independent member participation	Further information awaited, but future make-up of the Committee dependent on proposed legislation affecting the Standards regime	Mark Bowen/Simon Davey	Tba
9 – Labour Party Leader	Further consideration of issues around gifts and hospitality to be explored	To be discussed when Committee looks at Bribery Act implications for local government – item to be programmed	Mark Bowen/Mark Gibson	Tba