

## **18. Annual Report from the Standards Committee to the Fire and Rescue Authority**

### **Purpose of report**

1. To inform the Authority of the proceedings of the Standards Committee since the last AGM of the Authority.
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### **Recommendation**

***The Standards Committee recommends that the Authority notes the Committee's Annual Report to the Authority.***

### **Terms of Reference and Composition**

2. The Standards Committee is concerned to ensure that Authority Members observe their Code of Conduct and is empowered to deal with any allegations that Members have breached the Code of Conduct.
3. The Committee is comprised of 5 non-elected, independent Members and 2 Members appointed from the Authority. The current membership is as follows:  
Mr Richard Gething (Chair),  
Mr Colin Emeny, Dr Murray Mylechreest, Mr Robert Rogers, and Mr David Stevens all Independent Members; and  
Cllrs. John Goodwin and Gay Hopkins appointed by the Authority.

### **Standards Committee Proceedings since June 2009**

4. The Committee is pleased to report to the Authority that no complaints have been made against any Member of the Authority, alleging breach of the Code of Conduct during the past 12 months.
5. Three Members of the Committee attended The National Assembly for Standards Committees in Birmingham last October.
6. The Committee met on 23 April 2010 and carried out the following business:
  - a. Election of Chairman:  
Mr Richard Gething was elected to succeed Dr. Murray Mylechreest;
  - b. Review of Members' Registers of Interests and Undertakings:  
The Committee noted that the 11 new Members who joined the Authority in June 2009 had completed their statutory undertakings regarding the Code of Conduct and that all of the Authority Members had updated their Registers of Financial and Other Interests up to 30 June 2009.  
  
It was further noted that no Member had registered receipt of any gifts or hospitality during the past year.

- c. Consideration of the Authority's Governance Review:  
The Committee requested the opportunity to comment on review proposals prior to the September meeting of the Authority.
- d. The Member Development Programme 2009-10:  
The Committee welcomed the improvements in Member Development during the year.
- e. Update on Publications, Guidance and Cases from the Standards Board for England.

### **Supporting Information**

Background papers – Agenda and papers for Standards Committee Meeting held on 23 April 2010.

### **Contact Officer**

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