

Minutes of the Standards Committee

31st March, 2008 at 2.00 pm
at the Fire Service Headquarters, Birmingham

Present: Mr C Topliss (Chair);
Councillors Douglas-Maul, Hussain and Ryder.
Messrs Bagley and Denny.

Apology: Councillor Jackson.

7/08 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 11th February 2008, be approved as a correct record.

8/08 Adjudication Panel

Further to Minute No. 2/08 the Committee received a report on the role of the Adjudication Panel for England.

The Adjudication Panel considered references made to it by and Ethical Standards Officer of the Standards Board. The Panel also considered appeals against the decisions of local standards committees. Such references and appeals would be considered by an appeals tribunal consisting of three panel members.

9/08 Case Summaries

The Committee noted important cases published by the Standards Board for England as part of their learning in preparation for the new locally-based standards regime.

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10/08 Local Assessment – Training Exercise for Standards Committees

The Committee undertook a training and development exercise designed to assist local Standards Committees in their forthcoming new role in receiving allegations of breaches of the Code of Conduct, conducting the 'first sieve' and reaching decisions.

The Committee considered and made decisions on a number of anonymised past cases and gave its views on whether there was a case to answer.

11/08 Date of next meeting

To be arranged, pending information from the Standards Board on an implementation date for the new legislation.

(The meeting ended at 3.40 pm)

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