

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Agenda
Item No.

11

Report of Chief Executive and Town Clerk
to

Standards Committee

on

3 December 2003

Report prepared by: John Williams

Training for Members of the Standards Committee and all Councillors

A Part I Public Agenda Item

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To consider training requirements of Members of the Committee and Members generally (including Members of Leigh-on-Sea Town Council), particularly in respect of the ethical framework.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 **That the Committee make recommendations on their own training requirements and in respect of Members generally, including Members of Leigh-on-Sea Town Council, in respect of the ethical framework.**

3. Background

- 3.1 Since the establishment of the new ethical framework in the Local Government Act 2000 and the setting up of the Standards Committee, a certain amount of training has been organised. For example
- the past chairman went on a number of external courses including the Standards Board Roadshow.
 - the Independent Members of the Committee have also been on external courses.
 - I have given several training sessions on the Code of Conduct to all Members of the Council (5 August 2002 and 3 September 2002) and to Leigh-on-Sea Town Council.
 - I have also given training to Members of the Development Control Committee (and other Members) on the rules on declaring interests in the Code of Conduct most recently on 16 June 2003.
- 3.2 Further training on the Code has also been given at tonight's meeting (agenda item 8).
- 3.3 However the Committee needs to consider what further training it would wish to receive and make recommendations on further training for Members generally (including Members of Leigh-on-Sea Town Council). Whilst the focus of such training will no doubt be on ethical issues – the Committee's recommendations need not be limited to this and attached at **Appendix 1** for information are details of the Members Training Programme for 2003/04.
- 3.4 One event which Members of the Committee may well find of interest is the Standards Boards' Third Annual Assembly of Standards Committees to be held in Birmingham on 13 and 14 September 2004.

4. Background Papers

4.1 None.

5. Appendices

5.1 **Appendix 1** – Training Programme for Members 2003/04.