

# Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Report of Deputy Town Clerk & Monitoring Officer  
to  
**Standards Committee and All Members of the  
Council**  
on  
**25 April 2005**

Agenda  
Item No.

**4**

Report prepared by: John Williams

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## Review of the Code of Conduct for Members

*A Part I Public Agenda Item*

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### 1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To comment on possible changes to the Code of Conduct for Members.

### 2. Recommendation

- 2.1 **That the Committee consider the suggested response to the Standards Board's consultation document as set out at Appendix 4 to this report.**

### 3. Background

- 3.1 The Code of Conduct for Members which the Council is obliged to have, follows exactly the model Code of Conduct produced by the Government. The Council was able to add provisions to its own Code (which it did not do), but had to incorporate all the provisions of the Government's Code. A copy of the Council's Code of Conduct for Members which is contained in Part 5(b) of the Constitution is attached at Appendix 1.
- 3.2 The Standards Board for England has now been asked by the Minister of State for Local and Regional Government to conduct a review of the Code of Conduct. A copy of the full consultation document is attached at Appendix 2. A leaflet introducing the consultation, including a number of questions, is attached at Appendix 3.
- 3.3 Attached at Appendix 4 is a draft response to the consultation which takes on board a number of concerns which have been raised by Members since its introduction.

### 4. Background Papers

- 4.1 None.

### 5. Appendices

- 5.1 Appendix 1 – The Council's Code of Conduct for Members  
5.2 Appendix 2 – Consultation document 'A Code for the Future'.  
5.3 Appendix 3 – Standards Board's leaflet and questions  
5.4 Appendix 4 – Draft response to the consultation.