

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

8 FEBRUARY 2007

STANDARDS BOARD FOR ENGLAND: BULLETIN 31

Report from: Deborah Upton, Assistant Director, Legal, Contract and Property Services

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To inform members of the committee of the latest Standards Bulletin published on 27 November 2006. The Bulletin is a summary of news and guidance in the code of conduct issued by the Standards Board. The highlights of this issue are outlined from paragraph 3.1. The full Bulletin is attached at Appendix 1.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the content of the bulletin be noted.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Bulletin is a summary of news and guidance for officers and members, providing the latest news, features and guidance on the Code of Conduct and the work of the Standards Board for England. It is published on the Standards Board for England website.
- 3.2 The Bulletin is issued to all members and voting co-opted members of the council, parish clerks and key officers within the authority. Current & passed issues are available at:

www.standardsboard.co.uk/publications

- 3.3 Highlights from the Bulletin include:

- a monitoring officer's first hand perspective on preparing for a local investigation
- key findings from the research project – *A snapshot of standards committees*
- how the eight monitoring officers of Suffolk share good practice; and

- a look at specific code of conduct issues, including the recent Collins judgment

3.3 Distributing the Bulletin has positive implications for corporate governance as it ensures that all members of the council, parish council members and key officers are kept up to date with standards issues and guidance on the code of conduct.

4 LEGAL AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no legal or financial implications.

Background Documents

None.

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