

## **Standards Committee**

This Committee consists of 5 Members (of which at least 25% must be independent).

The quorum is three Members (comprising 1 lay member and 2 Police Authority Members).

### **Purpose**

Through the promotion and encouragement of the highest standards of member conduct and behaviour and the mainstreaming of wider aspects of ethical governance, contribute to improved performance of the Authority.

### **Terms of Reference**

1. To promote and maintain high standards of conduct by members or co-opted members of the Authority.
2. To advise the Authority on the adoption or revision of its code of conduct and a scheme for member's allowances and expenses.
3. To monitor the operation of the Authority's code of conduct.
4. To assist members of the Authority in observing the code of conduct, including arrangements for training on matters relating to the code of conduct.
5. To arrange (where necessary through a Sub-Committee) for the initial assessment and review of complaints made about members under the code of conduct and also conduct any hearings required following investigation of complaints.
6. To keep informed of the national guidance issued by the Standards Board for England and advise the Authority accordingly.
7. In accordance with statutory requirements, to monitor and advise the Authority on compliance with the requirements for registration of interests and registers of gifts and hospitality.
8. To consider and determine requests to grant a member a dispensation relating to interests set out in the code of conduct.
9. To consider and where appropriate approve applications for exemption from an Officer's post being regarded as a politically restricted post.
10. To carry out the recruitment and selection of Independent Members to the Standards Committee
11. To have due regard, in exercising the committee's responsibilities, to equal opportunities generally, and the general duty of the Race Relations (Amendment) Act and the requirements of any other equalities legislation.
12. To conduct Member appraisals in accordance with the Members Appraisal Scheme.
13. To deal with such other functions as the Authority considers appropriate.