

By: Miss R MacCrone – Independent Chairman
Peter Sass - Head of Democratic Services and Local Leadership

To: Standards Committee – 12 May 2010

Subject: Annual Return to Standards for England

Summary: To receive and comment upon the Council's annual return to Standards for England.

Unrestricted

Background

1. The Monitoring Officer is required to submit information to Standards for England at the end of each quarter in relation to the number of complaints received about the Conduct of Members and the progress/outcome of each complaint, anonymised accordingly.
2. From 2009, the Monitoring Officer is also required to submit an annual return, which provides information about the role of the Standards Committee in promoting ethical standards, Member/Officer relations, leadership, training, registering of interests etc. Attached to this report is a copy of KCC's annual return for 2009/2010, for the Committee's information and comment.
3. Standards for England has stated that it will produce a report later this year highlighting best practice nationally in relation to the promotion of ethical standards, using information gleaned from the annual returns. When this report is published, it will be useful in terms of guiding the Committee's future work programme.

Recommendation:

4. The Committee is invited to note the Council's annual return to Standards for England and comment accordingly.

Miss R MacCrone – Independent Chairman of the Standards Committee
Peter Sass – Head of Democratic Services and Local Leadership
May 2010