

## NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### STANDARDS COMMITTEE

11 February 2013

#### **Members' Attendance Monitoring**

#### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To seek the Committee's views on appropriate arrangements for the monitoring of Members' attendance at meetings.

#### **2.0 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The previous Standards Committee received a report each year setting out the attendance record of County Councillors at meetings of the County Council and its Committees for the previous municipal period. The Committee would resolve that letters be written to Group Leaders and individual Independent Members in respect of those Councillors whose attendance at meetings had been 60% or less, together with details of the figures provided in respect of attendance. The Committee would receive an update at its next meeting as to any responses received.
- 2.2 The Council's Audit Committee has previously requested that the Standards Committee report once per year to the Audit Committee concerning the action the Standards Committee takes in reviewing Members' attendance records. The Audit Committee has been informed that its request will be considered at a future meeting of the Standards Committee and that it will be advised of the outcome in due course. The previous Standards Committee considered the Audit Committee's request in November 2011 but resolved that consideration of this issue be deferred until the remit of the newly formed Standards Committee had been established.

#### **3.0 ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 3.1 Members are requested to consider whether the Committee should annually monitor the attendance record of County Councillors at meetings of the County Council and its Committees.
- 3.2 If Members are minded to undertake such monitoring, then Members are further requested to consider the Audit Committee's request and determine whether it would be appropriate for the Committee to report once per year to the Audit Committee concerning the action the Standards Committee takes in reviewing Members' attendance records. The Committee's views will be reported to the Audit Committee.

#### **4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 That the Committee determines whether it would wish to annually monitor the attendance record of County Councillors at meetings of the County Council and its Committees and, in the event that it does, to further determine whether it would be appropriate for the Committee to report once per year to the Audit Committee concerning the action the Standards Committee takes in reviewing Members' attendance records.

CAROLE DUNN  
Monitoring Officer

Background Papers:

Previous Standards Committee minutes

County Hall  
NORTHALLERTON

30 January 2013