

**AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET**

**Name of Committee**                      **Audit And Standards Committee**

**Date of Committee**                      **22 September 2008**

**Report Title**                                **Standards Board For England Annual Review 2007-08**

**Summary**                                      To consider the Standards Board For England Annual Review 2007-08

**For further information please contact:**      John Wright  
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**Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework?**      No.

**Background papers**                      None

**CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-**                      Details to be specified

- Other Committees                       .....
- Local Member(s)                       N/A
- Other Elected Members               .....
- Cabinet Member                       .....
- Chief Executive                       .....
- Legal
- Finance                                   .....
- Other Chief Officers                   .....
- District Councils                       .....
- Health Authority                       .....
- Police                                       .....
- Other Bodies/Individuals             .....

**FINAL DECISION YES**

**SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:**

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee  .....
- To Council  .....
- To Cabinet  .....
- To an O & S Committee  .....
- To an Area Committee  .....
- Further Consultation  .....

## Agenda No 4

### Audit And Standards Committee – 22 September 2008.

#### Standards Board For England Annual Review 2007-08

#### Report of the Strategic Director of Performance and Development

#### Recommendation

That the Committee comments on the contents of and issues raised in the Standards Board For England Annual Review 2007-08.

#### 1. Introduction

The Standards Board For England Annual Review 2007-08 was recently published and a copy was circulated to each member of the Audit and Standards Committee.

#### 2 Key achievements

The report lists the key achievements of the Standards Board as being

- The publication of key advice on the implications of the revised Code of Conduct.
- Ensuring 99% of monitoring officers and 90% of standards committee members knew of the changes to the new Code by its adoption date of 1 October 2007.
- Attracting more than 1,000 members and monitoring officers to roadshows explaining both the new Code and the new local framework.
- Successful Annual Assembly, with positive feedback from delegates.
- The completion of local pilots designed to explore and shape the new local assessment framework.
- 44% of members think that standards of behaviour have improved in recent times. This is up from 27% in 2004.
- Two in three stakeholders now consider that our published information and guidance communicates key messages 'very or fairly well'.
- 90% of allegations acknowledged within two working days.
- Average time taken from receipt of allegations to notification was ten working days.
- Completing 96% of cases referred for investigation within six months.

DAVID CARTER  
Strategic Director of Performance and Development  
Shire Hall Warwick  
8<sup>th</sup> September 2008