

**DOWN TO DETAIL: MAKING LOCAL REGULATION WORK –  
6TH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF STANDARDS COMMITTEES  
(Report by the Director of Central Services and Monitoring Officer)**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Committee is requested to nominate Members to attend the 6th Annual Assembly of Standards Committees which is to be held at the International Convention Centre (ICC), Birmingham on 15th and 16th October 2007.
- 1.2 In addition to the Monitoring and Deputy Monitoring Officers, the Committee has, in previous years, authorised the reservation of up to four conference places.
- 1.3 For various reasons, not all of these places were taken at last year's conference thus two have been reserved in advance on this occasion.
- 1.4 For the information of new Members of the Committee, conference fees, travelling and accommodation expenses are met by the District Council.

**2. CONFERENCE DETAILS**

- 2.1 This year's conference - Down to Detail: Making Local Regulation Work – will focus attention on the proposed local filter system for complaints which will place Standards Committees at the heart of the decision-making process.
- 2.2 Phil Woolas, MP, Minister for Local Government and Community Cohesion will open the conference by outlining how to meet the challenges of the local filter system and the revised code of conduct. He will also set out the Government's focus for the future.
- 2.3 There will be over twenty five sessions covering issues such as the process and practice of managing the local filter, helping delegates to develop the skills and knowledge they need to deliver high standards of effective local governance.
- 2.4 Several sessions will address vital issues linked to managing the wider impact of the local filter and the revised code. These will include training and "hands-on" workshops to help delegates focus on raising their authority's standards to an even higher level. There will also be sessions on how to improve communication with stakeholders and confidently deliver effective local regulation.
- 2.5 An advance copy of the conference programme is enclosed as an Appendix to this report.

**3. CONCLUSION**

- 3.1 The Committee is requested to nominate two Members to attend the 6th Annual Assembly of Standards Committees Conference.

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Letter received from the Standards Board for England May 2007.

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