

DO YOU WANT TO SERVE ON THE COUNCIL'S STANDARDS COMMITTEE?

Are you fair-minded?

Can you reach independent conclusions based on the facts?

Would you be willing to help set and maintain standards of conduct in Winchester City Council?

If the answer to these questions is 'yes' then you may be able to help the City Council by serving as an Independent Member on its Standards Committee.

We require four independent people to join City Councillors and Parish Council representatives to form the Standards Committee, which is responsible for:-

- promoting and maintaining high ethical standards of conduct by all Councillors;
- conducting local hearings into certain cases regarding alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct
- making sure that the Council's activities are conducted openly and fairly;
- advising the Council on the monitoring of the Code of Conduct and local protocols
- agreeing and overseeing the training programme for Councillors.

The people we are seeking will need to live or work in the Winchester District. Some experience of maintaining standards and ethics in the public or private sectors and a legal or management background would be useful, or experience of a management position in a voluntary organisation. However, it will be more important to be able to provide clear thinking and impartiality.

The Committee will meet about five times per year, in the evening at the Guildhall, Winchester. An annual allowance plus travel and subsistence expenses will be payable. The appointments will be for two years and full training will be given.

Please note that current Winchester City Council Councillors or officers (or those who have held such positions in the last five years) cannot be appointed as Independent Members. Relatives and close friends of current Winchester City Council Councillors or officers also cannot apply.

You can download application details from www.winchester.gov.uk/CouncilandDemocracy. If you would like to receive an application pack by post, please contact Katherine Pryor on 01962 848 264 or write to the address below, or e mail kpryor@winchester.gov.uk. For an informal discussion about the role, please contact Chris Ashcroft on 01962 848 284.

The closing date for applications is Friday 9 March 2007

Stephen Whetnall City Secretary and Solicitor.

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