

Review of Committees

This report was generated on 20/10/21. Overall 30 respondents completed this questionnaire. The report has been filtered to show the responses for 'All Respondents'

Section 3

This section focuses on the remaining advisory committees. These are identified as: Appeals Panel, Development Plan Committee, Senior Officer Employment Committee, **Standards Committee** and Complaints Panel.

Q32 Which Committee(s) do you sit / have you sat on and what is / was your role on them?

Have Not Been a Member on any of the above committees (15)	54%
Standards Committee - Committee Member (5)	18%
Development Plan Committee - Committee Member (4)	14%
Senior Officer Employment Committee - Committee Member (3)	11%
Standards Committee - Former Committee Member (3)	11%
Appeals Panel - Chair (2)	7%
Appeals Panel - Committee Member (2)	7%
Development Plan Committee - Former Committee Member (2)	7%
Appeals Panel - Former Committee Member (1)	4%
Development Plan Committee - Chair (1)	4%
Development Plan Committee - Vice Chair (1)	4%
Senior Officer Employment Committee - Chair (1)	4%

Q33 Do you think that sitting on one of these Committees has made your role as a Councillor:
Standards Committee

Not applicable (16)	70%
More appealing (3)	13%
Neither more or less appealing (3)	13%
Much more appealing (1)	4%
Less appealing (-)	
A lot less appealing (-)	

Q34 How knowledgeable in the subject areas do you think that sitting on these Committees has made you? (Standards Committee)

Not applicable (14)	64%
More knowledgeable (6)	27%
Much more knowledgeable (1)	5%
Neither more or less knowledgeable (1)	5%

Q35 How much do you like being a Member of the below Committee(s)? (Standards Committee)

Not applicable (15)	68%
Somewhat like (3)	14%
Like a lot (2)	9%
Neutral (2)	9%
Somewhat dislike (-)	
Dislike a lot (-)	

Q36 How involved do you think you are within the business of the Committee(s)? Standards Committee

Not applicable (14)	67%
Somewhat involved (4)	19%
Very involved (1)	5%
Not very involved (1)	5%
Not involved at all (1)	5%

Q36a Is there anything you can think of that would improve your involvement?

More training for development committee
I am a new member of the committee and I have not formed a judgment
I am a new member of the committee and I have not formed a judgment
The Standards Committee needs a complete overhaul as I would go as far as to say it is unfit for purpose. The Committee should be advocating for a rolling programme for Member Conduct training rather than one session at the start of the 4 year term. The Independent Person element needs to be increased to at least 2 people, one involved in the initial assessment of complaints and second in any complaints that go to a hearing. Also, the tenure of the IP needs to ideally be a 2 year term with the option to extend to a further 12

months to ensure impartiality and independence. The Committee, in my view, should be more involved in the assessment of complaints at the initial stage.

Appeals and standards are largely reactive which is in their nature.

Be involved in the agenda setting

Q40 How would you rate the following with regards to Standards Committee:

(How well you feel the committee works together)

Not applicable (12)	57%
Good (4)	19%
Fair (2)	10%
Poor (2)	10%
Excellent (1)	5%

(The effectiveness of the Committee meetings)

Not applicable (12)	57%
Good (4)	19%
Fair (3)	14%
Poor (2)	10%
Excellent (-)	

(The appropriateness of agenda items)

Not applicable (12)	57%
Good (5)	24%
Fair (2)	10%
Excellent (1)	5%
Poor (1)	5%

(Quality of member engagement (other than yourself))

Not applicable (12)	57%
Good (4)	19%
Fair (3)	14%

Poor (2) 10%

Excellent (-)

(Quality of the officer support within the meetings)

Not applicable (12) 57%

Good (5) 24%

Excellent (2) 10%

Fair (2) 10%

Poor (-)

(The amount of reading/preparing that you undertake prior to the meeting)

Not applicable (12) 57%

Good (4) 19%

Fair (4) 19%

Excellent (1) 5%

Poor (-)

(Your preparedness during the committee meeting)

Not applicable (14) 67%

Good (4) 19%

Fair (2) 10%

Excellent (1) 5%

Poor (-)

(Your level of understanding of the reports)

Not applicable (13) 62%

Good (7) 33%

Excellent (1) 5%

Fair (-)

Poor (-)

(Your contribution within the meetings)

Not applicable (13)	62%
Good (6)	29%
Excellent (1)	5%
Fair (1)	5%
Poor (-)	

(Your overall satisfaction with the meetings)

Not applicable (13)	62%
Good (3)	14%
Fair (2)	10%
Poor (2)	10%
Excellent (1)	5%

Q40a Are there any other comments you would like to make?

Standards committee tor needs changing
As a new member along with 2 others I have only attended one meeting. One particular member seems to think it is his opportunity to set the world to rights and ask verbally for Constitutional changes without written information provided in advance. I cannot understand how I am expected to understand what the changes are and their impact without prior knowledge or expert advice?
Please read comments made to Question 36
More focus on setting an example re those who Breach the Standards set by the Nolan principles followed up with appropriate training
I would like the opportunity to be on this committee
Currently, this is a Committee that only has an agenda if there are cases to listen to, so it is very 'reactive'. Could it be proactive....that question has been asked, and I am still not sure if it could be, given the nature of the reasons for the meetings.

Q43 Do you believe that you have had the appropriate level of training made available so that you can participate in the committee meetings?

No (7)	54%
Yes (6)	46%

Do you think training for these committees should be mandatory?

Yes (14) 93%

No (1) 7%

Q43a Do you have any suggestions as to how the training for these advisory committees could be improved?

some mandatory training for the committee's
Not at present
LGA have courses available
role playing

Q44 How would you rate your understanding of the following: (Standards):

Your role within the committee

Not applicable (13) 65%

Good (4) 20%

Excellent (1) 5%

Fair (1) 5%

Poor (1) 5%

The role of the committee

Not applicable (10) 50%

Good (6) 30%

Poor (2) 10%

Excellent (1) 5%

Fair (1) 5%

The current model of the committee

Not applicable (10) 50%

Good (5) 25%

Fair (2) 10%

Poor (2) 10%

Excellent (1) 5%

Q45 Has your involvement in the Committee(s) so far increased your knowledge and understanding of the Council and its services? (Standards)

Not applicable (10)	50%
Yes (7)	35%
No (3)	15%

Q46 How would you rate the following: (Standards):

The frequency of the meetings

Not applicable (11)	55%
About right (8)	40%
Too few (1)	5%
Too many (-)	

The number of members on the committee

Not applicable (12)	60%
About right (7)	35%
Too few (1)	5%
Too many (-)	

Q47 Do you think the timing of the meetings should (Standards):

Stay the same (12)	100%
Move to another part of the day (-)	

Q47a Please state which meeting:

move to evening
Evenings where practical although the nature of appeals and significance to applicant results in meetings having to be held at the best time for applicant`
no idea
any

Q48 Do you have any thoughts on how these Committees could be improved?

training. mandatory

Regarding the Standards Committee please read my comments to Question 36.

Care needs to be addresses in membership selection. Although any member can be involved in a standards issue those frequently involved in standards issues perhaps should not be members.

member skill base and life experiences are key