



meeting	ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE	
date	30 September 2009	agenda item number

REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

STANDARDS BOARD ANNUAL ASSEMBLY 2009

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To seek approval to arrange for attendance at the Standards Board for England's Annual Assembly of Standards Committees, in Birmingham on 12-13 October 2009.

2. Information and Advice

- 2.1 Each year the Standards Board organises an assembly for Standards Committee members and monitoring officers from across England. The assembly provides an opportunity to look in depth at standards in action, share examples of good practice examples and discuss the practicalities of the local assessment of complaints.

The Assembly will address key strategic issues for ethical governance and answers questions on key areas of the standards framework. It will provide participants with the learning and practical resources they need to improve and promote standards and local democracy in their authority.

- 2.2 It is proposed that the Chair and two Vice-Chairs of the Standards Committee attend the Assembly. The costs of members' attendance are estimated as:

	£
Attendance fees	1,290
Travel expenses	105
Accommodation	<u>345</u>
	1,740

These costs can be met from the budget for Members' Conferences. It is also intended that the Monitoring Officer or her nominee attend the Assembly.

3. Statutory and Policy Implications

- 3.1 This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, personnel, crime and disorder, human rights and those using the relevant service. Where such implications are material, they have been described in the text of the report.

4. Recommendation

That approval is given to the attendance of the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the Standards Committee at the Annual Assembly of Standards Committees on 12-13 October 2009.

**JAYNE FRANCIS
MONITORING OFFICER**

Background papers available for inspection

Nil

Legal Services comments (SLB 12/08/2009)

On 18th June 2009 County Council delegated authority to the Council's Administration Committee to approve expenditure to be incurred for Member attendance at conferences and seminars together with accommodation, travel and other associated costs. Administration Committee has authority to consider the matters set out in this report.

Financial Comments of the Service Director - Finance

The Financial implications are outlined in the report. (MB 06/08/09)