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<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>STANDARDS COMMITTEE</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM: 6</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	<b>18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2008</b>	<b>CATEGORY: DELEGATED</b>
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	<b>MONITORING OFFICER</b>	<b>OPEN PARAGRAPH NO: N/A</b>
<b>MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:</b>	<b>NEIL BETTERIDGE (595895)</b>	<b>DOC:</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>GUIDANCE ON REFERENCES TO THE ADJUDICATION PANEL BY A STANDARDS COMMITTEE</b>	<b>REF:</b>
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	<b>ALL</b>	

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## **1.0 Reason for Exempt**

1.1 Not applicable.

## **2.0 Recommendation**

2.1 That the guidance on the circumstances in which the Adjudication Panel would consider accepting a reference from a Standards Committee be noted.

## **3.0 Purpose of Report**

3.1 To consider guidance on the circumstances in which the Adjudication Panel would consider accepting a reference from a Standards Committee.

## **4.0 Detail**

4.1 Members of the Committee will be aware that recent changes have been made to the legislation that deals with allegations about the conduct of Councillors. Local authority Standards Committees became responsible for receiving complaints about Member conduct and deciding what to do with them. One option available to a Standards Committee after considering an Investigating Officer's report is to refer the matter to the Adjudication Panel for England for determination by a tribunal.

4.2 The President of the Adjudication Panel has issued guidance on the circumstances in which the Adjudication Panel would consider accepting a reference from a Standards Committee. A copy of the guidance is attached at Annexe 'A' for information.

## **5.0 Corporate Implications**

5.1 Article 8.02 of the Council's Constitution provides that a role of the Standards Committee is to promote and maintain high standards of conduct for councillors and co-opted Members.

## **6.0 Community Implications**

6.1 The Council's Standards Committee plays a vital role in promoting and maintaining the highest standards of conduct by Councillors of South Derbyshire District Council and all the Parishes in its area.

## **7.0 Background Papers**

7.1 Nov 08      Guidance on Regulation 17(1)(c)