REPORT TO: Standards Committee

DATE: 3 April 2008

REPORTING OFFICER: Council Solicitor

Anthony Winship

SUBJECT: Standards Board for England Bulletin 37

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform Members of the Committee of the latest Standards Board Bulletin 37 published on 22 February 2008.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Members of the Committee are asked to note the report and the attached Bulletin.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Bulletin is a summary of news and guidance for officers and Members, providing the latest news, features and guidance on the Code of Conduct and the work of The Standards Board for England. It is published every two months on the Standards Board for England website. The full Bulletin is attached at Annex 1.

4.0 MAIN ISSUES

Highlights from the Bulletin (attached at Annex 1) include:

- The main provisions concerning the ethical framework that have recently been brought into force.
- Examples of good practice in publicising the local assessment of complaints.
- Information on prejudicial interests and setting the authority's annual budget.

An introduction to our new Chief Executive.

5.0 COUNCIL POLICY

Consideration of the Bulletin contributes positively to the Council's Corporate Governance arrangements by ensuring that Members are kept up to date with standards issues and guidance on the code of conduct.

Background Papers:

Standards Board Bulletin 37 published on 22 February 2008.

OFFICER CONTACT:

Please contact Anthony Winship, Council Solicitor, if you require any further information on the contents of this Report. The Officer can be contacted at Ryedale House, Telephone 01653 600666 ext.267 or e-mail: anthony.winship@ryedale.gov.uk