

## **Audit & Standards Committee: Topics for Standards Panel Training, July 2014**

### **1. Legal framework for –**

- a. Code of conduct.
  - Requirement to have one; and one which...
  - promotes and maintains high standards of conduct
  - is consistent with the 7 principles of public life
  - provides for the registration and declaration of interests
- b. Investigating and deciding allegations of breach of Code
- c. Statutory role of Independent Person (IP)
- d. Criminal offences in relation to Code of Conduct

### **2. Principles underpinning code of conduct complaints procedure**

- a. Instilling member and public confidence in process
- b. Panels to reach findings fairly and independently
- c. Panel hearings to be conducted openly

### **3. Overview of complaints process**

- a. Making a complaint
- b. Preliminary assessment (role of MO and IP)
- c. Formal investigation
- d. Standards Panel hearing
- e. Scope of permitted outcomes and sanctions
- f. Appeals

### **4. Standards Panel arrangements**

- a. Appointment of Members and Chair
- b. Nature of hearing and values expected of Panel members
- c. Hearing procedure
- d. Reaching and owning a decision
- e. Security and privacy
- f. Publicity before and after the hearing