

Title: **Standards Board for England Bulletin -
July issue**

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Purpose

To inform members of the July issue of the bulletin produced by the Standards Board for England for officers and members.

Background

The Standards Board publishes a bulletin every two months. It provides policy information and news on standards issues. It is also available on the Standards Board website.

Key Issues

Adoption and Advertising of the Code (page 2)

The Standards Board have been notified that this Council has adopted the new Code and a notice was published in the Wiltshire Times on 13 July 2007.

Registering gifts and hospitality (page 3)

The Standards Board have clarified the interpretation of parts of the Code relating to the registration of gifts and hospitality. It has confirmed that it is a description of the gift/hospitality and its source that need to be registered.

Disclosing confidential information (page 4)

The Standards Board advises that under paragraph 4(a) of the Code disclosure in the public interest may be justified when all four of the requirements are met - it must be reasonable, in the public interest, made in good faith and in compliance with the reasonable requirements of the authority.

Future Training and Guidance (page 5)

The Standards Board is producing a new DVD on the Code of Conduct and a paper from leading Counsel advising on the law of predetermination and bias which will be available at the end of July.

Recommendation

Members are asked to consider this Bulletin and whether any aspects of its content should be circulated among Councillors generally and through Clerks to Parish and Town Councils to their constituent Councillors.

