



Standards Committee 22nd November 2005

Report from the Borough Solicitor

For Information

Wards Affected:
ALL

Declarations in the Register of Gifts and Hospitality

1.0 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report updates members on the declarations made in the period since the last Monitoring Officer's report in July 2004 in the Register of Gifts and Hospitality. Members will recall the audit findings which were reported to the Standards Committee at its January meeting. The audit was undertaken as part of the 2004-05 internal audit plan. The report from the auditors identified a number of failures to register gifts and hospitality. It recommended some steps to be taken to rectify non-compliances and improve the situation in the future. One recommendation was that the Monitoring Officer give a 6 monthly report on the entries into the Register of Gifts and Hospitality which is met by this report. This report was tabled at the June 2005 Standards Committee but as it was inquorate is being retabled now.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That members note the report.

3.0 DETAIL

- 3.1 The entries into the register since July 2004 are listed in Appendix 1 . The table lists all entries received regardless of whether they are inside or outside the £25 rule.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no financial implications

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Brent Code of Conduct requires that members, within 28 days of receiving any gift or hospitality over the value of £25, provide written notification to the authority's Monitoring Officer of the existence and nature of that gift or hospitality.
- 5.2 Failure to do so is a breach of the code and risks being referred to the Standards Board for England.

6.0 DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Officers believe that there are no specific diversity implications in this report.

7.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Register of Gifts and Hospitality, Town Hall, Wembley

Appendix 1

Declarations made since July 2004

Councillor	Date	Who from	What
Fiegel	9 January 2005	Local shop keeper	1 bottle Lanson champagne (non vintage)
John	1 March 2005	Pakistan Cultural and Business Visit	Velvet box containing commemorative plaque
John	7 January 2005	Pakistan Welfare Association	Crystal decanter with 6 glasses. Donated to mayors charity for raffle
Kagan	7 December 2004	Mrs K McGill of Kilburn	1 jar of lime pickle
John	11 November 2004	Quintain	Arena tickets for Princes Trust concert
Kagan	13 October 2004	Willesden Traders Association	Box of Belgian Chocolates