

Motion B–
by Graeme Harrower

To be presented on Thursday, 6th December 2018

*To the Right Honourable The Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Commons
of the City of London in Common Council assembled.*

Motion:-

“That this Honourable Court resolves to instruct the Town Clerk to convene, by 20 December 2018, a working party which is:

- a) to consist of:
 - i. up to five Members of this Court:
 - one of whom is to be the Chairman;
 - who do not sit on the Standards Committee;
 - a majority of whom are legally qualified; and
 - who may also be members of a working party convened at around the same time to consider the matter of “pecuniary interest”; and
 - ii. two officers appointed by the Town Clerk;
- b) to consider:
 - i. whether strict adherence should be had to the existing requirement of the (recently revised) complaints procedure that an allegation of a breach of the Code of Conduct must be made by an individual whose identity must (except in the very limited circumstances specified) be disclosed, so that the Corporation does not itself become a complainant on the basis of information received from anonymous informants;
 - ii. whether the functions of each of the Dispensation Sub-Committee, Assessment Sub-Committee and Hearing Sub-Committee should instead be performed by one or more individuals who have significant judicial experience (such as a retired judge) and who have no connection with the Corporation or City-related associations, and to consider the associated administrative arrangements, while retaining the recently constituted Standards Appeals Committee, which will allow ultimate member oversight; and
 - iii. whether an appeal should lie from a decision of the Dispensation Sub-Committee (or a person or persons performing its function) as well as the Hearing Sub-Committee (or a person or persons performing its function) to the Standards Appeals Committee;
- c) to obtain such advice as it may consider appropriate from one or more Queen’s Counsel who have expertise in administrative law and who have not previously been instructed on behalf of the Corporation; and

d) to report its recommendations to this Court for consideration at its meeting in March 2019.

Signatories to the Motion, pursuant to Standing Order 12(3):-

*Graeme Harrower
Thomas Anderson
Adrian Bastow
Matthew Bell
Mark Bostock
John Chapman
Marianne Fredericks*

*Christopher Hill
Robert Merrett, Deputy
Barbara Newman
Dhruv Patel, O.B.E.
Susan Pearson
William Pimlott
Mark Wheatley*