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Date:

TJE/JM  
Mr. Elliott  
01424 787805  
17 July 2007



To : Clerks to Parish & Town Councils

Resources Directorate  
Mrs. J. Hollister MBA (Open) DipSW DMS  
Director

Dear Clerk

Town Hall  
Bexhill-on-Sea  
TN39 3JX

## REGISTRATION OF GIFTS OR HOSPITALITY

The Standards Committee has recently given consideration to the Member Code of Conduct requirement to register gifts or hospitality with an estimated value of at least £25 and which are **received** by Members in the course of their duties.

In the past some Members have sought to register gifts or hospitality that have been **offered but not accepted**. The Standards Committee considered that in some circumstances this might be just as important as registering gifts or hospitality that have been accepted. The Committee resolved therefore that:

"Notwithstanding the requirements of the adopted Code of Conduct, Members and Co-opted Members of Rother District Council and Members of Parish & Town Councils be advised to register any offer of gifts or hospitality made to them in the course of their duties with a value of at least £25, whether accepted or declined."

Whilst the incidence of gift or hospitality registration by Parish & Town Councillors is extremely low, and inevitably so, nevertheless could I ask you please to promulgate the protocol to your Councillors. Should they be offered gifts or hospitality in the course of their duties as a Councillor, then the relevant form (a small supply of which is enclosed) should be completed and return to me.

Yours sincerely

Trevor Elliott  
District Secretary