

Investigations

Hearings

Public confidence

Ethical standards



**IN YOUR HANDS**

**Fourth Annual Assembly of Standards Committees**  
**5-6 September 2005, ICC, Birmingham**

Conference fee: £395 plus VAT per delegate. A one-day fee is available on request.

**Last year's event sold out • Limited availability • Book now!**

## THIS YEAR'S ANNUAL ASSEMBLY FOCUSES ON LOCAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR INVESTIGATIONS, HEARINGS AND, ULTIMATELY, PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN LOCAL DEMOCRACY.

### Keynote speakers include:

**Rt Hon Nick Raynsford MP**, Minister for Local and Regional Government, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, sets out his vision for local government.

**Sir Alistair Graham**, Chair of the Committee on Standards in Public Life, returns to the conference platform to report back on the findings of the Committee's Tenth Inquiry.

### Conference sessions include:

#### Investigations

- Local authorities share their experiences
- How are local investigations regulations bedding down?
- Key components of a good investigation
- Practical workshops – practice and improve investigative and decision-making skills

#### Hearings

- Best practice – share successes, problems and solutions
- Practical workshops – explore skills in applying the Code of Conduct, reaching findings and proportionate sanctions

#### Public confidence

- Public perceptions of ethical standards – initiating change
- Ethical 'health-checks' using the new ethical toolkit
- Standards committees – going beyond the Code of Conduct
- Communicating good news and tackling a lack of public confidence
- When standards slip – early warning signs and prevention

### DEBATING A MISSION IMPOSSIBLE?

Key influencers of public opinion debate whether the public will ever trust local government. Speakers include Tim Minogue, Editor of *Private Eye's* Rotten Boroughs column.

### ADDED VALUE

Additional events will run throughout the conference, hosted by:

Association of Council Secretaries and Solicitors

Audit Commission

Improvement and Development Agency

National Association of Local Councils

The Adjudication Panel for England

Society of Local Authority Chief Executives and Senior Managers

### Book now!

Last year's event sold out. To find out more about the 2005 conference or to book your place, please contact our event managers, Benedict Business Resources:

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