AUDIT & STANDARDS COMMITTEE Agenda Item 59(b)

21 January 2014

Brighton & Hove City Council

WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A period of not more than fifteen minutes shall be allowed for questions submitted by a member of the public who either lives or works in the area of the authority at each ordinary meeting of the Council.

Every question shall be put and answered without discussion, but the person to whom a question has been put may decline to answer. The person who asked the question may ask one relevant supplementary question, which shall be put and answered without discussion.

The following written question has been received from members of the public.

(a) Mr Roy Pennington

Given the public concerns on the secrecy surrounding the Standards Panel of Thursday, 19th December, 2013 and its subsequent banning of the press and public from that meeting, will this committee conduct a self-scrutiny of (a) the circumstances that allowed for a previously public hearing with full disclosure of all documents to become completely restricted and (b) the voting procedure on this panel which seems to prevent any minority decision or formal dissent?