

<b>STANDARDS COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE AND FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME</b>	
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<b>STANDARDS COMMITTEE MEETING DATE (2021/22)</b> 13 July 2021	<b>CLASSIFICATION:</b> OPEN
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<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED</b> N/A
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<b>DIRECTOR</b> Dawn Carter-McDonald, Director of Legal and Governance Services
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## **1 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 In line with established good practice, the Standards Committee sets out a work programme to help it focus its attention on promoting and maintaining high ethical standards among Members of the Council.

1.2 This report outlines the areas of work which the Committee will be undertaking to ensure that it maintains effective oversight of Member conduct and ensures that high ethical governance standards are maintained.

1.3 The report therefore invites the Committee to agree a work programme for the year 2021/22.

## **2. RECOMMENDATION**

2.1 Standards Committee is asked

- i) to note its terms of reference for 2021/22 as set out in Appendix 1.
- ii) to agree the draft work programme for 2021/22 as detailed in Appendix 2 to this report.

## **3. REASON FOR DECISION**

3.1 Issues concerning ethical governance including the promotion and maintenance of high ethical standards among Members of the Council are within the remit of the Committee. Agreement of the Committee's work programme would therefore enhance the work of the Committee.

## **4. BACKGROUND**

4.1 The Localism Act 2011 places an obligation on the Council to ensure that high ethical standards are promoted and maintained among its Members. At the Council meeting on 28 March 2012, the Council appointed

the Standards Committee to assist with promoting and maintaining high ethical standards in the Council.

4.2 The suggested work programme, attached as Appendix 2, is intended to help the Committee to focus attention on its responsibilities and duties, with particular attention on ensuring all Members receive appropriate training, complete their register of interests forms and continue to uphold high ethical governance standards. There is some flexibility to add items to the work programme subject to time and resources.

4.3 Complaints received in the year may necessitate additional meetings being held by a Sub-Committee of the Standards Committee.

## **5. COMMENTS OF THE GROUP DIRECTOR, FINANCE AND CORPORATE RESOURCES**

5.1 This report seeks agreement for the work programme of the Standards Committee and does not have financial implications outside of the approved budget of the Council.

## **6. COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE**

6.1 The work programme enables the Council to discharge its legal obligation under the Localism Act 2011, to promote and maintain high standards in public office.

## **LIST OF APPENDICES**

**Appendix 1 - Standards Committee Terms of Reference 2021/22**

**Appendix 2 –Standards Committee Work Programme 2021/22**

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

No documents which require listing been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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