



## STANDARDS COMMITTEE WORK PLAN 2018/19

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<b>Report to</b>	<b>Standards Committee for Decision</b>
<b>Ward(s):</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>Key Decision:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Appendix 1:</b>	<b>Draft Work Plan 2018/19</b>
<b>Papers relied on:</b>	<b>None Identified</b>

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### 1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Standards Committee advises the Council on the adoption or revision of the code of conduct for councillors and monitors the operation of the code of conduct. The committee promotes and maintains high standards of conduct by councillors and co-opted members and provides advice, guidance and training on the code of conduct. The committee also oversee arrangements for dealing with complaints against councillors.
- 1.2 The Committee has not met for over a year and needs to review its terms of reference and agree its work priorities for the coming year and note the scheduled meetings in the Council diary for 2018/19.
- 1.3 The Committee is currently scheduled to meet three times a year: 12 February 2018; 4 June 2018 and 8 October 2018. A meeting has also been provisionally scheduled for 29 January 2019. A draft work plan indicating possible topics for these meetings together with a schedule of regular items is set out at Appendix A.
- 1.4 The Functions of the Standards Committee are set out in Part 3 of the Constitution. They require amendment to reflect the recently adopted Procedure for dealing with member complaints following changes in legislation. The current drafting is as follows:
- 1) To advise the Council on the adoption or revision of the code of conduct for councillors.
  - 2) To monitor the operation of the code of conduct and to advise the Council as required on matters relating to ethical standards and conduct.
  - 3) To promote and maintain high standards of conduct by councillors and co-opted members and to provide advice, guidance and training on the code of conduct.
  - 4) To oversee arrangements for dealing with complaints against councillors which will, where appropriate, be determined by a Standards Sub-Committee appointed by the Monitoring Officer.

- 5) To appoint a Dispensations Sub-Committee, as required, to consider applications by councillors or co-opted members for the grant of dispensations from requirements relating to interests set out in the code of conduct.

### **Standards Sub-Committee**

To consider complaints referred to it by the Monitoring Officer in accordance with the arrangements for dealing with complaints under the code of conduct adopted by the Council.

### **Dispensations Sub-Committee**

To consider and determine applications by councillors or co-opted members for the grant of dispensations from requirements relating to interests set out in the code of conduct.

### **Recommendations**

**The Committee is recommended to:**

- 1. Note its Terms of Reference**
- 2. Note and agree the programme of meetings for 2018/19**
- 3. Consider and agree its Work Programme for 2018/19.**

## 2. Main considerations

### The Proposal

- 2.1 To ask the Committee to agree its Work Programme for 2018/19 in the light of its terms of reference and any other considerations.
- 2.2 A draft work programme for the Committee is attached at Appendix 1 for the Committee to discuss and agree its priorities for the year. This is based upon the anticipated work for the Committee during the year, but can be adapted in response to any other matters which arise.
- 2.3 The Chair of the Committee has written to the Political Group Leaders of the Council to seek their views on any matters they would like the Committee to consider. A verbal update on any responses received will be given at the meeting.

## 3. Key issues for consideration

- 3.1 In formulating a work plan, the committee will need to have regard to its terms of reference and the resources available to it to undertake any consequential work.

## 4. Corporate Implications

- 4.1 Legal Implications: There are no specific legal or human rights implications of this report.
- 4.2 Financial implications: There are no financial implications of this report.
- 4.3 Risk management: A risk assessment has not been completed for this report as it does not recommend a change in Council policy or service.
- 4.4 HR and Equalities implications: A Diversity Impact Assessment has not been completed for this report, as it does not recommend a change in Council policy or service.

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<b>Report author</b>	Deputy Monitoring Officer
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<b>Status</b>	Open
<b>Confidentiality</b>	It is considered that information contained within this report (and appendices) do not contain exempt information under the meaning of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, as amended, and therefore can be made public.