



AGENDA ITEM: 5

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

9 MARCH 2010

WORK PROGRAMME 2010/2011

RICHARD G LONG,

DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To present a proposed work programme to enable the committee to discharge its role during the municipal year 2010/2011.

BACKGROUND

2. The committee has previously received suggestions for an annual programme of work to provide a more structured focus to its work. Matters to be considered covered items such as investigations under the Code of Conduct, monitoring of complaints, reviewing protocols or procedures for various committees and other urgent matters.
3. The following table identifies potential areas of work to be considered by the committee during the course of the year and incorporates a number of standing and ongoing items from the previous year that are awaiting information from external sources e.g. Code of Conduct for Employees.

Adjudication Panel and Standards Boards Decisions	Details of individual decisions that may impact on Members or the Council and keep under review any changes in case developments or as a result of new legislation
Annual Governance Statement	As part of the annual accounts process to review its system of internal controls and to publish a statement of that review known as the Statement on Internal Control
Annual Ombudsman's Letter	Report in relation to complaints to the Local Government Ombudsman
Review of Corporate Complaints,	Reporting of complaints, comments and

Comments and Compliments Monitoring	compliments received by the Council
Review of Ombudsman's Complaints and Stage 3 Complaints	Report on the number and scope of complaints submitted to the Ombudsman and via the Council's Stage 3 Complaints processes
Ombudsman Training - Officers	Report on training undertaken by council officers
Annual Audit and Inspection Letter	Audit Commission Audit and Inspection Letter – Summary and findings of statutory audit
Review of Members' Interests /Gifts and Hospitality	Annual review of Members' declarations and registration of interests
Member Training 2010/ 2011	To carry out training on the Code of Conduct and other matters incorporating any further legislative changes or guidance issued by the Standards Board England. To undertake training for new and returned Members following Mayoral and Council Elections 2011
Member Development Strategy 2010/2011	To review the strategy proposed by the Member Development Working Group
Chair's Annual Report	Report on the work of the committee during the previous year
Code of Conduct for Employees	New Code
Code of Conduct for Members	New Code

4. Members are asked to consider the above items and to offer suggestions for any additional future topics.

RECOMMENDATIONS

5. To consider and approve the work programme subject to any changes or amendments felt to be appropriate.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

AUTHOR

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