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| Committee: STANDARDS COMMITTEE | Date: 17 June 2008 | Classification: UNRESTRICTED | Report No. | Agenda Item No. |
| Report Of: Assistant Chief Executive (Legal Services) | | Title: Standards Committee – Work Programme | | |
| Originating Officer: Isabella Freeman | | Wards Affected: N/A | | |

DRAFT

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report sets out a proposed work programme for the Standards Committee in the 2008/9 municipal year.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 Members are recommended to agree the work programme set out in section 4 of this report.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 (AS AMENDED) SECTION 100D
LIST OF "BACKGROUND PAPERS" USED IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT**

Brief description of "background paper"

**Tick if copy
supplied for register**

**If not supplied, name
and telephone number
of holder**

Standards Committee file

Isabella Freeman 020 7364 4800

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 A key role of the Standards Committee is to promote high standards of ethical conduct for Members and officers. The standards that are achieved by the Council are audited periodically by the Audit Commission as part of the Comprehensive Performance Assessment.
- 3.2 By putting in place a work programme for each municipal year the Standards Committee ensures that it is best placed to become an integral part of the work of the Council and can make a positive difference to ethical standards.
- 3.3 Section 4 below sets out a proposed work programme for 2008/09. In addition the Committee will be responsible for the local assessment of complaints about Member conduct as detailed in a separate agenda item.

4. PROPOSED WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2008/09

4.1

| ITEMS TO BE SCHEDULED FOR CONSIDERATION 2008/09 | PROPOSED COMMITTEE |
|---|---------------------------|
| Corporate governance review – assessment against CIPFA/SOLACE framework. | 28 October 2008 |
| Ethical standards self assessment – outcomes. | 28 October 2008 |
| Half yearly corporate complaints report. | 28 October 2008 |
| Monitoring implementation of the Ethical Governance Protocol for Council contracts. | 28 October 2008 |
| Half yearly audit update (including whistle blowing) | 28 October 2008 |
| Monitoring implementation of the local assessment of complaints about Member conduct. | 20 January 2009 |
| Revisions to the Member/Officer Protocol. | 20 January 2009 |
| Monitoring report on ethical | 20 January 2009 |

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| standards training. | |
| Constitution review. | 21 April 2009 |
| Annual corporate complaints report | 21 April 2009 |
| Annual audit update (including whistle blowing) | 21 April 2009 |
| REGULAR ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR CONSIDERATION EACH MUNICIPAL YEAR | |
| Committee terms of reference | 17 June 2008 |
| Committee work programme | 17 June 2008 |
| Members' timesheets and attendance at Committees/Panels | 28 October 2008 and 21 April 2009 |

5. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

- 5.1 There are no immediate financial implications arising out of this report.

6. CONCURRENT REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (LEGAL SERVICE)

- 6.1 This report has been prepared by the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal Services) who is also the Council's Monitoring Officer and incorporates legal comments.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 A robust work programme will assist in ensuring that the Committee meets and discharges its statutory functions.

8. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 There are no specific equal opportunity implications arising out of this report.

9. ANTI-POVERTY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There are no specific anti-poverty implications arising out of this report.

10. SAGE IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 This report has no immediate implications for the Council's policy of strategic action for a greener environment.