

North Tyneside Council

Report to Standards Committee

Date: 19 July 2018

ITEM

Title: Action Plan/Work
Programme 2018 - 19

Report from Service

Area: Law and Governance

Report Author: Vivienne Geary, Head of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer (Tel: 643 5339)

Wards affected: All

1.1 Purpose:

To provide a report on the Action Plan/Work Programme of the Standards Committee for 2016/19.

1.2 Recommendation(s):

The Committee is requested to consider and suggest any additions and amendments to this report as appropriate and to approve the action plan/work programme.

1.3 Information

1.3.1 The Standards Committee's - Action Plan/Work Programme up to 31 March 2019

The Standards Committee is responsible for the Authority's statutory duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by the Elected Mayor, Councillors, Co-opted Members.

The draft Action Plan/Work Programme sets out below details the proposed tasks and matters that will be undertaken by the Committee in this municipal year.

Members are requested to consider the proposed tasks and matters and determine the action plan/work programme for 2018/19.

The Action Plan/Work Programme will be monitored by the Committee at each meeting and the progress of the identified actions will be reported in the Committee's Annual Report in May 2019.

Action	Why	By When
Monitor the operation of the new Members' Code of Conduct.	To ensure that it is operating effectively	Ongoing
To review the Authority's Local Arrangements for dealing with Complaints under the Code of Conduct.	To ensure that the Authority's Local Arrangements meet the requirements and expectations of the Members and the relevant legislation.	Ongoing
To continue to develop an ongoing programme of meetings with invited guests, including the Elected Mayor, the Chief Executive, Senior Leadership Team, Group Leaders, the Chair and Deputy Chair of Council and the Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Planning Committee and other Regulatory Committees.	To develop a dialogue between the Committee, and members and appropriate Officers relating to ethical governance and ethical standards.	Ongoing
To invite Chairs of Standards Committees from other Authorities in the region to attend Committee meetings.	To provide an opportunity to understand ethical governance and standards issues in other Authorities.	Ongoing
6 monthly regional meeting of the Chairs and Deputy Chairs of Standards Committees and Independent Persons be arranged in consultation with other regional authorities	To provide an opportunity to share knowledge and best practice.	First meeting by October 2018 and second meeting by 31 March 2019

<p>To promote the development of all Members by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seeking the attendance of Regulatory Committee Members (including the Standards Committee) at relevant Committees at neighbouring authorities; • encouraging the extension of filming of meetings to include the Planning Committee; and • the provision of training on relevant ethical standards issues. 	<p>To assist the Authority to fulfil its statutory duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct.</p>	<p>By March 2019</p>
<p>To review training available to all Council Members on ethical governance, ethical standards issues including arrangements with respect to the Code of Conduct; granting of dispensations, the use of Social Media and declaring interests.</p>	<p>To ensure all members receive information on ethical governance, ethical standards to minimise risk of unwitting breaches of the Code of Conduct.</p>	<p>By January 2019</p>
<p>To seek the further promotion with all Members of the Authority's e-learning training on the use of social media.</p>	<p>To assist all Members in the use of social media.</p>	<p>By September 2018</p>
<p>Continue production of Annual Standards Committee Report</p>	<p>Presentation of Annual Report of the work of the Committee during the previous 12 months.</p>	<p>By end of each municipal year.</p>
<p>To provide training to the Independent Persons on their role, this to include invitations to relevant training for Members.</p>	<p>To ensure that the Authority's Independent Persons understand their role in relation to ethical governance and</p>	<p>October 2018.</p>

	the Code of Conduct for Members as well as the disciplinary procedures for Statutory Officers.	
To update where necessary and recirculate the pocket guide to the Code of Conduct and the requirements in relation to interests to all Members.	To assist Members in how the Code of Conduct applies to them.	September 2018

1.4 Appendices:

None.

1.5 Contact officers:

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Governance Services

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1.6 Background information:

Code of Conduct for Members and Co-opted Members

The Localism Act 2011

Standards Committee Annual Report 2016-2017

Note of informal meeting of Standards Committee – 10 February 2017.