



<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>The Monitoring Officer</b>
<b>TO:</b>	<b>Standards Committee</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> July 2016.</b>

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**SUBJECT:**                    **Work Programme for the Committee 2016/17.**

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**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To seek Members comments on a draft Work Programme for the Municipal Year 2016/17.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Committee agrees the work programme for the year.

**3. BACKGROUND**

The Committee meets 4 times per year and to ensure that Members gain the maximum advantage from these meetings a framework programme has been put together for Members to add issues that they consider that the Standards Committee should consider to add clarity and consistency for members in their roles.

The draft work Framework programme is as follows-

October	Revised Constitution of the Council Complaints Received/Progress on Complaints Register of Interests
January	Complaints Received/ Progress on Complaints. Dispensations
March	Complaints received/Progress on complaints; and, Review of the year.

The proposed work programme will allow the Committee to consider in advance any issues they may have on topics and ensure a considered response. This may be particularly helpful for Parish Council representatives. The work programme will also allow flexibility to allow Members to consider items of concern etc and Members are asked to consider further issues that they would wish to have before them.

A letter has also been sent out to the Clerks to the Town and Parish Councils to give them the opportunity to raise issues that they consider the Committee may wish to address as part of the work programme. These issues will be considered at the March meeting (or the work programme re-arranged if urgent)

#### **4. RATIONALE**

The Localism Act requires Councils to put in place mechanisms for reporting and investigation of complaints. This report sets out a structured work programme for the Committee which will ensure Members are aware of the issues that are to be considered and enable input from Non- Borough Council Members of the Committee in particular.

#### **5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS.**

The statutory provisions for the Standards Framework are set out in the Localism Act 2011.

#### **6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

A governance framework in local authorities is necessary to promote and maintain high ethical standards, and to ensure public confidence.

#### **7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

None contained in this report.

#### **8. CONSULTATIONS**

The Council's arrangements for promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct have been discussed by the Standards Committee and this system seeks to ensure openness and transparency to Members of the Committee on issues to be discussed throughout the year.

#### **Chief Officer/Member**

Contact Officer: Paul Conlon  
Date: 27th June 2016

Background Papers: The Localism Act 2011