

REPORT OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE.

Councillors Parwaiz Akhtar, Lilian Salton PORTFOLIO COORDINATING

DEPUTY DIRECTOR, LEGAL & GOVERNANCE: Asad Laher

This report updates the Council Forum on the work of the Standards Committee.

At its meeting on 29th June ([Agenda for Standards Committee on Wednesday, 29th June, 2022, 6.00 pm \(blackburn.gov.uk\)](#)), the Monitoring Officer delivered a presentation on the Standards Arrangements in local authorities and at the Council.

The Committee considered the essential requirement for all Members to undertake the Information Governance and Cyber Security training. In view of the recent cyber-attacks on the Council's IT network, this training is very important for all Members in order to protect themselves and the Council against such malicious attacks. The Committee endorsed the training requirement and asked for regular updates on compliance. The online training is covered by two modules, which has been tailored specifically for Members. The Committee was also informed about other online training available to Members through the Me-Learning portal to aid their development, and the draft Member Training programme for 2022/23 covering key updates and topics.

The Committee's work programme for 2022/23 was also agreed. It will cover a review of the Code of Conduct, the arrangements for dealing with complaints against Members and use of social media.

Recommendations:

The Council:

1. Notes the work programme of the Standards Committee for 2022/23.
2. Agree for all Members to undertake the essential training for Information Governance and Cyber Security.

**Councillor Parwaiz Akhtar
Chair of Standards Committee**

July 2022