

Standards Committee

Date: 20 April 2023

Classification: For General Release

Title: Work Programme 2023-2024

Report of: The Director of Law and Governance

Financial Summary: There are no financial implications arising from

this report.

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1. Executive Summary

1.1 Members are asked to review the proposed work programme for 2023-2024 set out as Appendix 2 to the report and identify any other items it wishes to include on it.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That, having regard to the Committee's Terms of Reference attached as Appendix 1 of this report the Committee indicate any further items it wishes to be added to its future Work Programme.

3. Background Information

- 3.1 The production of a work programme is to enable the Committee to review and update its forthcoming work plan at each of its meetings.
- 3.2 In order to ensure the Committee undertakes its work programme three meetings per annum have been programmed.
- 3.3 As part of its work programme an annual review of the code of conduct has been undertaken on an ongoing basis throughout the year as part of the wider review of the constitution. The review established that the code of conduct was fit for purpose, effective and followed best practice in local government. In addition, the Committee also undertook a thorough review of the Member/Officer Protocol which set out the behaviours and treatment that members and officers could expect from the other and this review expanded upon and strengthened the Councillors Code of Conduct (Member/Officer Protocol). As best practice the code of conduct will continue to be kept under review on an ongoing basis. All councillors also attended training

- sessions on the code of conduct during the course of the year and refresher sessions will continue to be held annually.
- 3.4 The Council has also received a report from Transparency International UK who reviewed the Council's ethical framework for any gaps, with a particular focus on preventing any perception or reality of impropriety in planning. Relevant officers are currently assessing the report and will report any findings back to a future meeting of the Committee.

4. Financial Implications

4.1 There are no financial implications.

5. Legal Implications

5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

If you have any questions about this report, or wish to inspect one of the background papers, please contact:

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Background Papers: None.