

North Tyneside Council Report to Standards Committee Date: 3 November 2021

ITEM

Title: Action Plan/Work
Programme 2021-22

Report from Service

Area: Law and Governance

Report Author: Bryn Roberts – Head of Law and Governance (Tel: 643 5339)

Wards affected: All

1.1 Purpose:

To advise the Committee of the action plan/work programme of the Committee for the year up to 31 March 2022.

1.2 Recommendation(s):

The Committee is requested to consider and note this report.

1.3 Information

1.3.1 The Standards Committee's Action Plan up to 31 March 2022

This Action Plan is monitored by the Committee at each meeting and the progress of the identified actions will be reported in the Committee's Annual Report to Council at the end of the municipal year.

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

Action	Why	By When	Progress/Action
Establish the working group agreed at the April meeting by June 2021 to review the Code of Conduct against the LGA model Code of Conduct, and consider any changes to be made.	To ensure that the Authority's Code of Conduct remains fit for purpose and up to date.	June 2021	The Working Group has met twice and is due to report recommendations on amending the Code of Conduct to the Standards Committee.
The working group to report the outcome to		November 2021	

Standards Committee by November 2021.			
To extend a meeting invitation to a number of guests and to seek topics of conversation from those 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	Cllr F Lott provided his views to June meeting of the Committee on Ethical Governance and Standards issues relating to his time as Chair of Planning Committee.
The Chair has indicated an intention to attend Standards Committee meetings at neighbouring authorities.	To provide an opportunity to understand ethical governance and standards issues in other Authorities and aid best practice.	By 31 March 2022	Neighbouring authorities contacted about future meeting dates.
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	
To provide training for the Committee on relevant ethical standards issues.	Training on local assessment, the Code of Conduct and other relevant matters/legislation.	Ongoing.	
To review training available to all Council Members on ethical governance, ethical standards issues including arrangements with respect to the Code	To ensure all members receive information on ethical governance, ethical standards to minimise risk of unwitting breaches of the Code of Conduct.	By May 2022	

of Conduct; granting of dispensations, the use of Social Media and declaring interests.			
Continue production of Annual Standards Committee Report	Presentation of Annual Report of the work of the Committee during the previous 12 months.	By end of each municipal year.	

1.4 Appendices:

None.

1.5 Contact officers:

John Barton, Law and Governance

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1.6 Background information:

None