

STANDARDS COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

LEAD OFFICER: Martin Jepson, Head of Legal and Democratic Services

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Summary: Sets out a suggested work plan for the Standards Committee for 2008/2009

Recommendation: That the work plan be approved as submitted

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Report of the IDeA peer review team following the ethical governance light touch health check visit in November has been received and circulated to all members of the Standards Committee.

2 SUMMARY OF ISSUES

2.1 The peer review report contains many positive messages about the ethical governance agenda at the Council but also raises some concerns in a number of areas. These relate mainly to the need to raise the profile of ethical governance and of the Standards Committee itself within the organisation and establishing clearer links between the Standards Committee and other parts of the Council's governance arrangements, particularly between the Chair of the Committee and the Leader, Chief Executive and full Council.

2.2 Following discussions with the Chair, the Deputy Leader, the Chief Executive and the Monitoring Officer, a work plan has been prepared which attempts to build in the main issues raised by the peer review report. The draft work plan is attached as Appendix "A". It also reflects the need for the Committee to be prepared in both skills and capacity for the new locally based ethical governance regime, which is addressed in more detail in a separate report on this agenda.

List of Consultees: None

Background Papers: Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007; Consultation Paper: Orders and Regulations Relating to the Conduct of Local Authority Members in England

CHECKLIST FOR DEALING WITH KEY ISSUES

Please confirm against the issue if the key issues below have been addressed. This can be by either a short narrative or quoting the paragraph number in the report in which it has been covered.

Impact on Crime and Disorder	None
Impact on Sustainability	None
Impact on Rural Proofing	None
Health and Safety Implications	None
Impact on Equality and Diversity Issues	None
Children and Young Persons Implications	None
Human Rights Act Implications	None
Monitoring Officer comments	
S. 151 Officer comments	