

Standards Committee	
Meeting Date	14 June 2022
Report Title	Standards committee work programme 2022/23
EMT Lead	David Clifford
Head of Service	Head of Policy, Governance and Customer Services (Monitoring Officer)
Lead Officer	
Classification	Open
Recommendations	The standards committee is asked to: 1. Note the proposed committee work programme for 2022/23 and provide feedback to officers.

1 Purpose of Report and Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report outlines the likely work programme of the standards committee over the coming municipal year, and seeks members' views on the appropriateness of this programme.

2 Background

- 2.1 For many years the standards committee has only met once per year in order to consider the monitoring officer's annual report. With the higher profile that standards matters have had over the last couple of years, it was agreed with the committee chair that from the municipal year 2022/23 the frequency of meetings would change to quarterly. This move is particularly to be welcomed this year, as there are a number of potentially large pieces of work on the committee's work programme, in addition to the regular task of monitoring complaint cases by means of the annual report.
- 2.2 These pieces of work are likely to include most significantly the adoption and roll-out of a new code of conduct, probably based on the LGA model code, the development and adoption of a member-officer protocol, the roll-out of a scheme for standards champions within political groups, and the development of a programme of training, including most significantly induction for new members following the election in May 2023.
- 2.3 The proposals section below provides a suggested timetable for the committee in undertaking this work programme.

3 Proposals

- 3.1 There are a further three standards committee meetings during this municipal year. The December meeting will be the one which considers the monitoring officer's annual report. The table below suggests how the remaining pieces of

work could fit around this. It is also suggested that the standards working group continues to meet between standards committee dates as necessary to oversee and/or provide an informal steer on the work.

Committee meeting	Possible agenda items
14 June 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standards champions – decision for members to discuss with groups. • Member-officer protocol – decision in principle to draft, agreement on skeleton contents, discussion on most appropriate consultation method.
27 September 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LGA model code of conduct – decision on whether to recommend adoption to full council, and discussion/decision on implementation, including necessary member training. • Wider discussion on member development and training, including induction of new members after May 2023. • Standards champions – feedback from members and decision to progress. • Member-officer protocol – update on draft, decision to proceed to consultation.
20 December 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MO annual report and complaint statistics. • LGA model code of conduct – update on council decision and implementation programme. • Training and induction of new members post-election – update and further discussion. • Standards champions – feedback from MO and members. • Member-officer protocol – update on consultation responses and decision on whether to recommend adoption to full council.
23 March 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LGA model code of conduct – update on implementation programme. • Training and induction of new members post-election – update and further discussion. • Standards champions – feedback from MO and members. • Member-officer protocol – update on council decision and implementation programme.

3.2 The standards committee is **recommended** to note this proposed work programme for the municipal year 2022/23 and provide feedback to officers.

4 Alternative Options

- 4.1 As the report is essentially only for noting, there are no meaningful alternative options.

5 Consultation Undertaken or Proposed

- 5.1 As the report is essentially only for noting, no consultation has been undertaken or is proposed beyond ongoing discussions with the standards working group.

6 Implications

- 6.1 As the report is essentially only for noting, there are no cross-cutting implications for members to be aware of.

7 Appendices

- 7.1 There are no appendices.

8 Background Papers

- 8.1 There are no background papers.