



Leicester
City Council

WARDS AFFECTED
All Wards - Corporate Issue

Standards Committee

12th November 2008

Standards Committee Work Programme

Report of the Service Director (Democratic Services)

1. Purpose of Report

At the last meeting members agreed that there should be a programme of work for the Standards Committee. The report presents the initial work programme.

2. Recommendations

Members are asked to consider and agree the work programme for the Standards' Committee.

3. Report

3.1 Over the last year the role of the Standards Committee has grown, arising mainly from the introduction of the new Code of Conduct for Members and the local filter element of complaint handling. Both of these matters have brought about an increased and proactive role for the Standards Committee which, along with the corporate governance element of the work has identified the need for there to be a work programme for the Committee.

3.2 The work programme should be considered as a developing tool and as such will evolve over time as new issues come to light. It will be monitored through regular reports to the Standards Committee.

4. FINANCIAL, LEGAL AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS

4.1. Financial Implications

None.

4.2 Legal Implications

Any action agreed by the Standards Committee needs to be included in the Corporate Governance Action Plan.

5. Other Implications

OTHER IMPLICATIONS	YES/NO	Paragraph Within Supporting information	References
Equal Opportunities	No		
Policy	No		
Sustainable and Environmental	No		
Crime and Disorder	No		
Human Rights Act	No		
Elderly/People on Low Income	No		

6. Background Papers – Local Government Act 1972

Various reports to the Standards Committee from July 07 to date.

7. Consultations

None.

8. Report Author

Liz Reid Jones, Head of Democratic Services
Extn. 39 8899.

Standards Committee Work Programme – November 2008

	Work area	Timescales	Lead Officer	Comments
1.	Identify and action issues arising from Standards Board Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ November 08 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PN 	to be identified and reported to meeting
2.	Training for Members on Regulatory Committees, including annual refresher training.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Anthony Cross 	Independent members to be invited to attend
3.	Quarterly returns to Standards Board on Complaints against Members	December 08 March 09	Kate Owen (KO)	Report to Standards Committee in January and May
4.	Revised Code of Conduct Consultation for Elected Members and Officers	To Government by 24 th December	Liz Reid Jones (LRJ)	Report to Standards Committee 14 th January with copy of submission
5.	Training on Standards Complaints Process :- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Officers ▪ Members ▪ County 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ December ▪ January and ongoing ▪ June 09 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ LRJ/Peter Nicholls ▪ KO to arrange ▪ KO/PN 	Update to Standards Committee at each meeting
6.	Improve Standards website and make links to other related sites, eg Standards Board for England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ December 08 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ LRJ/KO 	
7.	Wholesale revision of Members' Register of Interests with each member completing a new entry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ December 08 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ LRJ 	
8.	Update of Gifts and Hospitality Register	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ December 08 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ LRJ 	
9.	Submit recommendations for legislative change to the LGA as requested by members following the report to Cabinet and Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ December 08 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PN 	
10.	Ensure effective interface with the Delivering Excellence programme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ invite speaker for the DE team to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing ▪ January 09 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PN ▪ PN 	

	Standards Committee			
11.	Introduce programme of speakers to Standards Committee, eg Chief Executive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ From January 09 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ LRJ 	Standards Committee to identify who they wish to invite
12.	Review Planning / Development Control Code of Conduct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ March 09 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PN/Anthony Cross 	
13.	Audit Commission Ethical Governance Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ January – to be confirmed. May tie into (3) above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PN/LRJ 	
14.	Revision of political conventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ January 09 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PN 	Report to Standards Committee
15.	Monitor response to the Corporate Assessment Ethical Framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ March 09 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PN 	Report to Standards Committee
16.	Make links between Audit, Standards and Scrutiny committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ March 09 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PN/CP/LRJ 	Report back to Standards Committee March 09
17.	Publicising work of Committee and Complaints process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ June 09 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ LRJ/KO 	Work with County post elections June 09
18.	Training on Code of Conduct for new members and prospective candidates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ May 2011 and beyond 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ LRJ 	Link in with Member Development Forum