

17th September 2015

Name of Cabinet Member:

N/A- Ethics Committee

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Executive Director of Resources

Ward(s) affected:

Not applicable

Title:

Work programme for the Ethics Committee 2015/16

Is this a key decision?

No

Executive Summary:

This report sets out the approved work programme for the Ethics Committee for the Municipal Year 2015/16. The Committee is asked to consider the work programme and make any suggestions for additional or alternative reports.

Recommendations:

The Ethics Committee is recommended to review the work programme attached as Appendix 1 and make any changes or amendments the Committee considers appropriate.

List of Appendices included:

Work programme

Other useful background papers:

None

Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

No

Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

No

Report title: Draft Work Programme

1. Context (or background)

- 1.1 The Committee's Terms of Reference are set out in the Council's Constitution and include the consideration of matters which are relevant to the ethical governance of the Council, its members or employees. This report attaches the approved programme of work for the Committee for 2015/16.
- 1.2 The Committee's work programme takes account of the need to promote standards and addresses this in a number of ways. It is flexible in terms of suggestions from members of the Ethics Committee as to additional or substitute areas which they would want to consider and receive reports on. However, certain items have been included which will help the Committee focus on its key aim to promote high standards of conduct for all members and employees of the Council.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to review the work programme attached as Appendix 1 and make any changes or amendments the Committee considers appropriate.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

None.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

- 4.1 Not applicable.

5. Comments from Executive Director, Resources

- 5.1 Financial implications
There are no specific financial implications arising from the recommendations within this report.
- 5.2 Legal implications
There are no specific legal implications arising from this report, as there is no statutory obligation on the Committee to adopt a work programme. However, the Council must comply with its obligations under section 27 of the Localism Act 2011 and the continuation of a clear programme of work would assist in compliance for the Council as a whole, in its duty to promote high standards of ethical conduct.

6. Other implications

None

6.1 How will this contribute to achievement of the Council's key objectives / corporate priorities (corporate plan/scorecard) / organisational blueprint / Local Area Agreement (or Coventry Sustainable Community Strategy)?

Not applicable.

6.2 How is risk being managed?

There is no direct risk to the organisation as a result of the contents of this report.

6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

The work programme will facilitate the promotion of high standards amongst elected members in accordance with the Localism Act.

6.4 Equalities / EIA

There are no public sector equality duties which are of relevance at this stage.

6.5 Implications for (or impact on) the environment

None

6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

None at this stage

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Contributor/approver name	Title	Directorate or organisation	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
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Names of approvers for submission: (officers and members)				
Finance: Kathryn Sutherland		Resources	2/9/15	
Legal: Helen Lynch	Legal Services Manager, Place and Regulatory Team	Resources	26/06/15	28/8/15
Director: Helen Lynch on behalf of Chris West	Executive Director Resources	Resources	26/8/15	28/8/15

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Appendix

Work Programme for the Municipal year 2015/2016

Meeting no. and date	Topics	Verbal or written	Lead officer
2015/2016			
1. 2nd July 2015	Monitoring Officer/Code of Conduct/ members Complaints Update.	Written	Helen Lynch
	Six monthly review of Register of DPs.	Written	Helen Lynch
	Report on the best value inspection of Rotherham MBC.	Written	Helen Lynch
2. 17th September 2015	Monitoring Officer/Code of Conduct/ members Complaints Update.	Written	Helen Lynch
	Officers Gifts and Hospitality - Inspection of Registers for first 6 months of 2015.	Written	Helen Lynch
	Members Gifts and Hospitality - Inspection of Registers for first 6 months of 2015.	Written	Helen Lynch
3. 10th December 2015	Monitoring Officer/Code of Conduct/ members Complaints Update.	Written	Helen Lynch
	Annual review of Parish Councils ethical standards regime.	Written	Helen Lynch
	Six monthly review of Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.	Written	Helen Lynch
	Standards in Public Life- update from national body usually published in August each year.	Written	Helen Lynch
4. 24th March 2016	Monitoring Officer/Code of Conduct/ members Complaints Update.	Written	Helen Lynch
	Officers Gifts and Hospitality - Inspection of Registers for second 6 months of 2015.	Written	Helen Lynch
	Members Gifts and Hospitality - Inspection of Registers for second 6 months of 2015.	Written	Helen Lynch