
Ethics Committee

9 December 2021

Name of Cabinet Member:

N/A- Ethics Committee

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Director of Finance and Corporate Services

Ward(s) affected:

Not applicable

Title:

Work Programme for the Ethics Committee 2021/22

Is this a key decision?

No

Executive Summary:

This report sets out the previously approved work programme for the Committee for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2021/22. 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:

Approved 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: Work Programme 2021/22

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 previously approved programme of work for the Committee, designed to assist the Committee to meet its objectives set out in the Terms of Reference, and to ensure that the Council complies with its obligations under section 27 of the Localism Act 2011 to promote and maintain high standards of conduct amongst elected and co-opted members.
- 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.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 2.1 The work programme was approved by the Committee at its meeting on 4 March 2021. The Committee is asked to consider whether there are any other matters that they would want to consider during the year or items that they would want to defer.

2.2 Recommendation

The Ethics Committee is recommended 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 Director of Finance and Director of Law and Governance

- 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 the Council Plan (www.coventry.gov.uk/councilplan/)?

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?

If implemented, 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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Enquiries should be directed to the above person.

Contributor/approver name	Title	Directorate or organisation	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
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Suzanne Bennett	Governance Services Officer	Law and Governance	25.11.2021	26.11.2021
Names of approvers for submission: (officers and members)				
Finance: Graham Clark	Lead Accountant – Business Partnering	Finance	24.11.2021	25.11.2021
Legal: Julie Newman	City Solicitor and Monitoring Officer	Law and Governance	22.11.2021	23.11.2021
Cllr Walsh	Chair: Ethics Committee		25.11.2021	29.11.2021

This report is published on the council's website: www.coventry.gov.uk/councilmeetings

Appendix 1

Work Programme for the Municipal Year 2021/22

Meeting no. and date	Topics
2021/22	
1. 1 July 2021	
	Monitoring Officer/Code of Conduct/ Members Complaints Update
	Annual Report of the Committee *
	Review of Complaints Protocol*
	Work Programme 2021/22
	<i>NB Items marked with a * have been moved to the 30 September meeting</i>
2. 30 September 2021	
	Monitoring Officer/Code of Conduct/ Members Complaints Update
	Officers Gifts and Hospitality - Inspection of Registers for first 6 months of 2021
	Members Gifts and Hospitality -Declarations for first 6 months of 2021.
	Civility in Public Life and Intimidation in Public Life
	Update on Employee Values
	Work Programme 2021/22
3. 9 December 2021	
	Monitoring Officer/Code of Conduct/ Members Complaints Update
	Review of Operation of Code of Conduct for Elected and Co-opted Members
	Review of Guidance on Declaration of Interests
	Local Government Ombudsman Annual Report
	Committee on Standards in Public Life Annual Report
	Work Programme 2021/22
4. 10 March 2022	
	Monitoring Officer/Code of Conduct/ Members Complaints Update.
	Officers Gifts and Hospitality - Inspection of Registers for last 6 months of 2021
	Members Gifts and Hospitality - Declarations for last 6 months of 2021
	Work Programme 2022/23

