
Ethics Committee

8 January, 2026

Name of Cabinet Member:

N/A- Ethics Committee

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Director of Law and Governance

Ward(s) affected:

Not applicable

Title:

Work Programme for the Ethics Committee 2025/26

Is this a key decision?

No

Executive Summary:

This report details the Work Programme for Ethics Committee for the Municipal Year 2025/26. 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 for 2025/26 attached as Appendix 1 and make any changes or amendments the Committee considers appropriate.

List of Appendices included:

Appendix 1 - 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 for the Ethics Committee 2025/26

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 details a programme of work for the Committee for the Municipal Year 2025/26, 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. The Work Programme 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 includes regular items on:

- Code of Conduct/ Monitoring Officer Update
- Declarations of gifts and hospitality by Members and Officers
- Annual report to full Council
- Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman's Annual Report

- 2.2 In addition, the Ethics Committee factor into the Work Programme a number of matters where work is being, or about to be, undertaken across the Council. This includes continuing work on Civility in Public Life and the provision of training for Members.
- 2.3 The Committee is asked to consider whether there are any other matters that they would want to consider during the year.

2.4 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 the Director of Finance and Resources and the 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 achievement of the One Coventry Plan?

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) climate change and the environment

None

6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

None at this stage

Report author(s):

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Appendix 1

Work Programme for the Ethics Committee - Municipal Year 2025/26

Ethics Committee Meeting and date	Topics
2024/5	
1. 26 June, 2025	Monitoring Officer/Code of Conduct/ Members Complaints Update Annual Report of the Committee Work Programme 2025/26 Update on Members Training
2. 25 September 2025	Monitoring Officer/Code of Conduct/ Members Complaints Update Officers Gifts and Hospitality - Inspection of Registers for first 6 months of 2025 Members Gifts and Hospitality -Declarations for first 6 months of 2025 Local Code of Corporate Governance Local Government Association (LGA) Ending Abuse in Public Life – Council Self-Assessment Tool Kit – Progress Work Programme 2025/26
3. 8 January, 2026	Monitoring Officer/Code of Conduct/ Members Complaints Update Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman Annual Report Preparations for Candidates - Municipal Elections 2026 Work Programme 2025/26
4. 19 March 2026	Monitoring Officer/Code of Conduct/ Members Complaints Update. Members Gifts and Hospitality - Declarations for last 6 months of 2025 Officers Gifts and Hospitality - Inspection of Registers for last 6 months of 2025 Members Training and Development Review 2025-26 – Update Work Programme 2026/27