

Meeting of:	<b>Standards Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>Thursday, 10 September 2020</b>
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:	No Relevant Scrutiny Committee
Report Title:	Standards Committee - Forward Work Programme
Purpose of Report:	To present to Members the Forward Work Programme for the Municipal Year 2020/21
Report Owner:	Ms. Debbie Marles, Monitoring Officer/ Head of Legal and Democratic Services
Responsible Officer:	Mrs. Karen Bowen, Principal Democratic and Scrutiny Services Officer
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	This report does not require consultation to be undertaken
Policy Framework:	This is a matter for decision by the Standards Committee
<p>Executive Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Standards Committee agreed to establish a Forward Work Programme for the Committee in March 2018 and attached to the report at Appendix 1 is the suggested Forward Work Programme for the Municipal year 2020/21 for Committee's consideration.</li> </ul>	

## **Recommendation**

1. That Members note the Forward Work Programme attached at Appendix 1 to this report and make any amendments or additions as required.

## **Reason for Recommendation**

1. To discuss and agree a Forward Work Programme.

## **1. Background**

- 1.1 The role and function of the Standards Committee is
  - (a) To promote and maintain high standards of conduct by Councillors, Co-Opted Members and church and parent governor representatives of the Council;
  - (b) To assist Councillors, Co-Opted Members and church and parent governor representatives of the Council to observe the Members' Code of Conduct;
  - (c) To advise the Council on the adoption or revision of the Members' Code of Conduct;
  - (d) To monitor the operation of the Members' Code of Conduct;
  - (e) To advise, train or arrange to train Councillors, Co-Opted Members and church and parent governor representatives of this Council on matters relating to the Members' Code of Conduct;
  - (f) To grant dispensations to Councillors, Co-Opted Members and church and parent governor representatives of this Council from requirements relating to interests set out in the Members' Code of Conduct.
  - (g) To deal with any reports from a case tribunal or interim case tribunal, and any report from the Monitoring Officer on any matter referred to that Officer by the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales; and
  - (h) To exercise (a) to (g) above in relation to the Community Councils wholly or mainly in its area and the Members of those Community Councils.

## **2. Key Issues for Consideration**

- 2.1 Attached at Appendix 1 to the report is a suggested Forward Work Programme for the Municipal Year 2020/21 for the Committee's consideration and approval.
- 2.2 Standards Committee Members are reminded that the Council's Annual Meeting is scheduled to take place on 14th September, 2020 and the appointment of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Standards Committee will be dealt with at the first meeting of the Standards Committee following the Annual Meeting.

### **3. How do proposals evidence the Five Ways of Working and contribute to our Well-being Objectives?**

3.1 As detailed in paragraph 1.1 of this report.

### **4. Resources and Legal Considerations**

#### **Financial**

4.1 There are no financial implications as a direct consequence of this report.

#### **Employment**

4.2 There are no employment implications as a direct consequence of this report.

#### **Legal (Including Equalities)**

4.3 The Council has a duty to establish and maintain a Standards Committee as defined by legislation as set out in the Standards Committees Rules and Regulations 2001 and the Standards Committee (Wales) Amendment Regulations 2006.

### **5. Background Papers**

None.

**STANDARDS COMMITTEE****FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2020/21**

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>Report Title</b>
10 <sup>th</sup> September, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dispensation Application</li> <li>• Forward work programme 2020/21</li> <li>• Feedback report following observations at Town and Community Council Committee meetings</li> <li>• Audit Brief – Members’ Code of Conduct</li> <li>• Adjudication Panel for Wales Annual Report</li> <li>• Correspondence with the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales</li> </ul>
1 <sup>st</sup> October, 2020 (Given the proximity of this meeting to 10 <sup>th</sup> September, 2020, should the meeting on 1 <sup>st</sup> October not proceed, the items on the Forward Work Programme will merge with the items for 26 <sup>th</sup> November, 2020. However, this is a matter for the Chairman in consultation with the Committee.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dispensation Applications (if any)</li> <li>• Feedback report following observations at Town and Community Council Committee meetings</li> <li>• Independent Review of Community and Town Councils Update (if any)</li> <li>• Correspondence with the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales</li> <li>• Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill Update Report</li> </ul>
26 <sup>th</sup> November, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dispensation Applications (if any)</li> <li>• Feedback report following observations at Town and Community Council Committee meetings</li> <li>• Independent Review of Community and Town Councils Update (if any)</li> <li>• Correspondence with the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales</li> <li>• Monitoring Officer meetings with Clerks of Town and Community Councils - Update report</li> </ul>
28 <sup>th</sup> January, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dispensation Applications (if any)</li> <li>• Feedback report following observations at Town and Community Council Committee meetings</li> <li>• Independent Review of Community and Town Councils Update (if any)</li> <li>• Correspondence with the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales</li> </ul>

25 <sup>th</sup> March, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dispensation Applications (if any)</li><li>• Feedback report following observations at Town and Community Council Committee meetings</li><li>• Independent Review of Community and Town Councils Update (if any)</li><li>• Correspondence with the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales</li><li>• Standards Committee - Forward Work Programme 2021/22</li><li>• Adjudication Panel for Wales Annual Report 2019/20 *</li><li>• Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Annual Report 2019/20 *</li></ul> <p>* These reports will be presented to Committee following their receipt, when available</p>
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