



## STANDARDS COMMITTEE REPORT

<b>Report Title</b>	<b>Training Strategy for Councillors – Ethical and Governance Matters</b>
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**AGENDA STATUS: PUBLIC**

<b>Committee Meeting Date:</b>	20 March 2017
<b>Policy Document:</b>	No
<b>Directorate:</b>	Borough Secretary and Monitoring Officer

### 1. Purpose

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- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to ask the Standards Committee to consider adopting a Training Strategy in relation to Ethical and Governance Matters for all Councillors

### 2. Recommendations

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- 2.1 To approve the 'Training Strategy – Ethical and Governance Matters' at Appendix 1, which is for all Councillors.
- 2.2 To instruct the Borough Secretary to make arrangements for the delivery of training for Members in accordance with the Training Strategy on Ethical and Governance Matters.

### 3. Issues and Choices

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#### 3.1 Report Background and Issues

- 3.1.1 At its meeting held on 19 December 2016, the Standards Committee set up a Working Group to put together a draft Work Plan for the Standards Committee for 2017/2018. Membership of the Working Group consists of Councillors Patel, Oldham, Smith and B. Markham. The establishment of a Work Plan will ensure that the Committee can meet all of its responsibilities and obligations during the year. It is seen as good practice for the Standards Committee to produce an annual Work Plan.

- 3.1.2 As detailed on the Work Plan, the Standards Committee is scheduled to consider on 20 March 2017, a draft Training Strategy for all Members of the Council in relation to ethical and governance matters (and to include specific training for the Standards Committee). The draft 'Training Strategy – Ethical and Governance Matters' was considered by the Standards Working Group (Work Plan) at its meeting on 2 March 2017.
- 3.1.3 The Working Group felt that the draft 'Training Strategy for Councillors – Ethical and Governance Matters' was wide ranging and the topics suggested for inclusion were supported. The Working Group asked that Councillor training on gifts and hospitality is programmed early in the Councillor Development Programme 2017/2018, in consultation with the Councillor Development Group.
- 3.1.4 Appended to this briefing note is a draft 'Training Strategy for Councillors – Ethical and Governance Matters' for the Standards Committee's consideration and comment.

## **3.2 Choices**

- 3.2.1 Members are asked to approve the draft 'Training Strategy for Councillors - Ethical and Governance Matters' at Appendix 1.

## **4. Implications (including financial implications)**

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### **4.1 Policy**

- 4.1.1 This report does not have any direct policy implications.

### **4.2 Resources and Risk**

- 4.2.1 There will be a resource implication, in terms of officer time if training is delivered internally and if external providers are procured, there will be a cost implication.
- 4.2.2 Adopting a comprehensive Training Strategy and delivering high quality training to all Councillors that covers governance matters will assist the Council in reducing any potential risk to the Council that could arise through Councillors being inadequately trained or informed about governance matters.

### **4.3 Legal**

- 4.3.1 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

### **4.4 Equality**

- 4.4.1 There are no direct equality and diversity implications arising from this report.

### **4.5 Consultees (Internal and External)**

- 4.5.1 Not applicable.

## **4.6 Other Implications**

4.6.1 None.

## **5. Background Papers**

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5.1 Report and Appendix – Draft Councillor Training Strategy – Ethical and Governance Matters – Standards Working Group (Work Plan) - 2 March 2017

**Francis Fernandes  
Borough Secretary**