

**Standards Committee : 17 August 2010**
**Title of report: Draft Training Programme for Standards Committee 2010/11**

<b>Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Is it in the Council's Forward Plan?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Is it eligible for "call in" by Scrutiny?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Cabinet member portfolio</b>	<b>Corporate</b>

**Electoral wards affected and ward councillors consulted: All**
**Public or private: Public**
**1. Purpose of Report**

To consider and approve the draft Training Programme for Standards Committee for 2010/11.

**2. Key Points**

The 2010/11 draft Training Programme has been prepared in the context of the government's commitment to abolish the standards board regime. At present the detail of the government proposals is not known. It appears that Standards for England will be abolished but is not clear whether the current standards regime will be replaced with a different regime or simply abolished, and whether local authorities will have the opportunity to create their own standards regimes.

Until the proposed legislation is passed the current standards regime will continue to apply. This means that the Code of Conduct will continue to apply to members, complaints about conduct must still be processed and the standards committee's statutory responsibilities will remain. The draft Training Programme is intended to balance the need to ensure that the existing standards system works effectively against the likelihood that there will be significant changes to the system at some point.

Two new external members have been recruited to Standards Committee recently and they will need training to fulfil their roles and in particular training on chairing skills.

It may become necessary to review any agreed training programme when the government's detailed proposals are announced.

### **3. Implications for the Council**

It is good practice for the Standards Committee to produce an annual Training Programme which identifies the training to be delivered during the year and which allows progress to be reviewed.

### **4. Consultees and their opinions**

N/a

### **5. Officer recommendations and reasons**

That the Committee consider the draft Training Programme, make any appropriate amendments and approve a final version of the Work Programme.

### **6. Cabinet portfolio holder recommendation**

N/a

### **7. Next steps**

The approved Training Programme will be implemented over the course of 2010/11.

### **8. Contact officer and relevant papers**

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### **Background Papers:**

None

## DRAFT TRAINING PROGRAMME 2010/11

### SUBJECT

### METHOD OF DELIVERY

#### **New Members of Standards Committee**

Code of Conduct	Briefing from Monitoring Officer and Chair of Standards Committee
Chairing Skills (external members)	Training from Monitoring Officer
Local Determination	Briefing from Monitoring Officer, discussion with colleagues, attendance at panels as observer
Standards Committee Procedures	Briefing from Monitoring Officer, discussion with colleagues
Roles of Kirklees and Parish Councillors (external members)	Briefing from Monitoring Officer, use of Kirklees induction materials for councillors, opportunities to attend Kirklees Council and committee meetings as observers, briefing from parish representatives on Standards Committee

#### **All Members of Standards Committee**

Updates on the Standards system	Report to committee as detailed government proposals for the standards regime are announced
	Reports to committee on First-Tier Tribunal Decisions
	Attendance at West Yorkshire Regional Standards Conference

#### **External Members**

Liaison with other External members	Attendance at regional independent members' forums
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#### **Parish and Town Councillors**

Code of Conduct	Offer training from Monitoring Officer
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#### **Kirklees Councillors**

Code of Conduct	Offer training from Monitoring Officer [members newly elected in May 2010 have had a brief
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presentation on standards as part of induction procedures]

### **Co-opted Members Of Kirklees Council**

Code of Conduct	Training has been arranged for Overview & Scrutiny Co-optees as part of the induction process. [Only co-optees with voting rights are bound by the Code of Conduct].
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### **Kirklees Council Governance Officers**

Code of Conduct	Offer training to governance officers to enable them to better identify standards issues at Council meetings
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