

MEEETING	Standards Committee
DATE	22 February 2021
TITLE	Self Assessment and Work Programme
AUTHOR	Monitoring Officer.

1. There are two aims in this report namely undertake a assessment of the work and outcomes of the Committee for 2018-19 and consider a draft work programme for 2019-20. The COVID- 19 situation has had a significant impact on what has been possible.

2. The terms of reference of the Standards Committee has been established through statute in the Councils Constitution and it is timely that that the Committee perhaps considers them anew at the beginning of a new term so as to prepare a work plan for the year..
 - (a) promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct by Councillors and co-opted Members of the Authority;
 - (b) assisting the Councillors and co-opted Members to observe the Members' Code of Conduct;
 - (c) advising the Council on the adoption or revision of the Members' Code of Conduct;
 - (d) monitoring the operation of the Members' Code of Conduct;
 - (e) advising, training or arranging to train Councillors and co-opted Members on matters relating to the Members' Code of Conduct;

3. The Committee members are asked to consider the functions listed in the first column and then note which assessment they believe is relevant, using the following categories :

Category 1 – That the Committee has made significant progress in achieving the function or in the case of specific tasks that the need to act has not arisen.

Category 2 – That the Committee has substantially implemented the function.

Category 3 – That the Committee has acted in the function but there is a need to give further attention.

Category 4 – There is no evidence that the Committee has actioned the function and there is a basis for concluding that the area needs attention.

4. It is necessary to note the evidence which supports the category which the Committee awards. The column "Evidence" shows some examples of evidence, but it is possible that the Committee members are able to add to it.
5. By assigning a category to each function and noting the evidence, it is possible for the Committee to come to a conclusion regarding which further steps they need to take (if any). The last column contains some suggestions for further steps. These are the matters which will be fed through to the Committee work programme in the future.

6. Appendices

In Appendix 1 there is a draft self assessment for the committees consideration

In Appendix 2 a draft work programme for 2021 22

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is asked to undertake a self assessment of its performance in 2019-20 and approve the work programme for 2021 22

APPENDIX 1

SELF ASSESSMENT OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE 2018/19

FUNCTION	ASSESSMENT (1/2/3/4)	Evidence	Further Action
Promote and maintain a high standard of conduct amongst members		<p>The Chair and Vice Chair have attended the North Wales Standards Forum to share experiences with other standards committees.</p> <p>Presentation of the Annual Report to the Full Council.</p> <p>The Committee received a report on arrangements for the Ethical framework in relation to joint working.</p>	Continue to attend and support
Assist the members to keep to the Code of Conduct		The Monitoring Officer and his team provide advice and guidance in meetings and on a one to one basis.	Resume training when resources allow
Advise the Council regarding adopting or amending the Code of Conduct		There were no instances where a need to amend the code arose.	
Monitor the operation of the Code of Conduct		<p>Receive regular reports on allegations against members</p> <p>Receive the annual reports of the Adjudication Panel for Wales and the Ombudsman</p>	<p>Continue to monitor.</p> <p>Receive regular reports on the Ombudsman's Code of Conduct Casebook.</p> <p>Receive annual reports on the declaration of interests register.</p>

Advise, train or arrange training for members on matters relating to the Code of Conduct		Supported an induction programme for the new Council.	Consider new training for Council Members.
Grant dispensations to members		Applications considered under the new arrangements.	
Deal with reports of tribunals and any reports from the Monitoring Officer on matters referred by the Ombudsman		There were no hearings	
Authorise the Monitoring Officer to pay allowances to persons assisting with an investigation		No occasion to pay such an allowance has arisen.	
Exercise the above functions in relation to community councils		<p>The Monitoring Officer and his team provide advice and guidance to councils, members and clerks.</p> <p>A pilot for Code of Conduct training was adopted. A session to pilot the course contents was undertaken.</p>	<p>Pilot course held with Tywyn Town Council with positive feedback.</p> <p>Resurrection of the programme on a virtual basis when resource allow.</p>

ATODIAD 2/ APPENDIX 2

Gwaith Pwyllgor Safonau 2020-21	Standards Committee Work 2020 - 21
Mehefin 2021 Adroddiad Blynyddol Honiadau yn erbyn aelodau Llyfr Achosion yr Ombwdsman Deddf Llywodraeth Leol ac Etholaidau (Cymru) 2021	June 2021 Annual Report Allegations Against Members Ombudsmans Code of Conduct Casebook Local Government and Elections Act (Wales) 2021
Tachwedd 2021 Cofrestr Rhoddion a Lletygarwch Cofrestr Datgan Buddiant Adroddiad Blynyddol yr Ombwdsman Honiadau yn erbyn Aelodau Gwrthdrawiada Buddianau a partneriaid tu allan Llywodreth Leol	November 2021 Gifts and Hospitality Register Declaration of Interest Registers Ombudsman's Annual Report Allegations Against Members Conflicts of Interests and non Local Government partners
Chwefror 2022 Adroddiad Blynyddol y Panel Dyfarnu Honiadau yn erbyn aelodau .	February 2022 Annual Report of Adjudication Panel Allegations against members