

North Tyneside Council Report to Standards Committee Date: 3 March 2016

ITEM 6

Title: Standards
Committee Draft Annual
Report 2015/16

Report from Service
Area:

Law and Governance

Report Authors:

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Wards affected:

All

1. Purpose

To introduce the Standards Committee Draft Annual Report for 2015/16 for consideration by the Committee prior its finalisation and submission to the Annual Council meeting on 19 May 2016.

2. Recommendations

The Committee is requested to:

1. consider and suggest any additions and amendments to the Draft Annual Report 2015-16 attached at Appendix 1 as appropriate; and
2. authorise the Head of Law and Governance in consultation with the Chair of Standards Committee to finalise the report, including the addition of a Chair's Foreword and taking into account any comments received pursuant to recommendation 1 above, prior to its submission to the Annual Council meeting to be held on 19 May 2016.

3. Background

At the end of the municipal year the Standards Committee is required to approve the contents of a draft annual report summarising the work of the Committee over the previous year for submission to the Annual Council meeting.

The Committee is responsible for the promotion of ethical standards within the Authority, helping to secure adherence to the Members' Code of Conduct, monitoring the operation of the Code within North Tyneside, promoting and reviewing the Whistleblowing Policy for Members and conducting hearings following investigation and determining complaints made against Councillors in respect of alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct (including following requests for review).

The Committee reviews complaints made against Members in respect of alleged breaches of the Members' Code of Conduct.

The Standards Committee Draft Annual Report 2015/16 is attached at Appendix 1. The report sets out the work undertaken by the Standards Committee and its Sub-Committees over the municipal year. The report highlights the ways in which the Standards Committee has influenced and shaped policy and the promotion and maintenance of ethical standards of conduct by the Elected Mayor, Councillors, Co-opted Members and church and parent governor representatives.

4. Appendices

Appendix 1 - Standards Committee Draft Annual Report 2015/16.

5 Contact officers:

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6 Background information:

None.