

## **SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO:** Standards Committee

**DATE:** 10<sup>th</sup> October 2007

**CONTACT OFFICER:** June Cook, Member Services Manager  
**(For all Enquiries)** (01753) 875019

**WARD(S):** All

### **PART I FOR INFORMATION**

#### **WORK PROGRAMME 2007/2008**

##### **1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To advise Members on the current position regarding the Committee's Work Programme and submit the revised programme.

##### **2. Recommendation(s)/Proposed Action**

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to note/comment on the attached revised work programme.

##### **3. Key Priorities – Taking Pride in Slough and Making a Difference to Communities and our Environment**

**Priority 5 – Maintaining excellent governance within the council to ensure it is efficient, effective and economic in everything it does.**

- 3.1 By adopting the action now proposed the Council will help ensure that governance of the highest order is maintained which will also contribute to achieving the Council's other key priorities.

##### **4. Other Implications**

- 4.1 There are no financial, nor any direct legal (including human rights) implications arising from this report. There may be some staffing implications in terms of increased work load for certain members of staff.

##### **5. Supporting Information**

- 5.1 A repeat session on the Local Code of Conduct and Member/Officer Relations Code was held on the 1<sup>st</sup> October for those Members who did not attend the whole or part of the session on the 9<sup>th</sup> May 2007. The Standards Board for England has recently distributed a training DVD on the revised Code to help Monitoring Officers, Members and Standards Committees understand their obligations under the Code and this was shown at the session on the 1<sup>st</sup> October. Ten elected and 3 co-opted Members attended on the 1<sup>st</sup> October but there are still 9 elected Members and 2 co-opted who have not attended any training on these matters and 2 elected members who have only attended the Local Code of Conduct part of the training. There are no plans to repeat the Session. The DVD which is approximately 30 minutes in duration will be shown after the Meeting for those Committee Members who wish to see it.

- 5.2 The meeting between the Chair of the Committee, Group Leaders, Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer to discuss the issues raised in response to the Ethical Governance Diagnostic Survey has still to be arranged. It is hoped that this will take place within the next couple of months with a view to the outcome of the meeting being reported to the Committee in January. The work programme has been amended accordingly.
- 5.3 The Action Plan approved by the Committee earlier in the meeting will be incorporated into the Committee's work programme and the resultant revised programme will be submitted to the Committee's next meeting.

## **6. Background Papers**

Report submitted to and Minutes of the Standards Committee Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2007.