

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Standards Committee

DATE: 15th April 2008

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WARD(S): All

PART I FOR INFORMATION

WORK PROGRAMME 2007/2009

1. **Purpose of Report**

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

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

2.1 The Committee is asked to note/comment on the attached revised work programme (**Appendix A**).

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 Please note that it has not been possible to submit to this meeting the report on proposed local arrangements for the "local filter" for handling complaints because we are still awaiting publication by the Department of Communities and Local Government of the relevant enabling Regulations. The implementation date of the locally managed framework is now expected to be 1st June 2008 and not 1st April as originally indicated.

5.2 As soon after receipt of the new Regulations as practicable, a Special Meeting of the Standards Committee will be called to consider proposed arrangements for implementation of the local filter for handling complaints. At this meeting the Standards Committee will also be asked to review its terms of reference in the light of any changes necessitated by the implementation of the locally managed framework.

5.3 The report on gifts and hospitality declared by Members scheduled to be submitted to this Meeting has been deferred to the 16th June 2008. This is to enable a report to be submitted for the whole of the municipal year 2007/2008. The report will also cover the period since the revised Code Local Code of Conduct required all Members to register gifts and hospitality of over £25 in value, as a personal interest in the Register of Members' Interests.

6. Background Papers

None