

## **SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO:** Standards Committee **Date:** 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2008

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**WARDS:** All

### **PART I** **FOR DECISION**

#### **DRAFT ANNUAL REVIEW 2007/08**

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

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to submit to Members the draft Annual Review summarising the achievements and work of the Committee during the last municipal year.

##### **2. Recommendation/Proposed Action**

- 2.1 The Committee is requested to approve the draft Annual Review 2007/08 as attached at Appendix A together with any amendments that Members may wish to make.

##### **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 that it is efficient, effective and economic in everything it does.

- 3.1 The Annual Review will help to publicise to the Council's employees partners and the public at large the steps it has taken to ensure that ethical behaviour and governance of the highest order is maintained as this contributes to open, transparent and fair decision making.

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

- 4.1 There are no financial, legal (including Human Rights) implications arising from this report. There may be some staffing implications in terms of the increased workload for Members and Officers alike.

##### **5. Background/Supporting Information**

- 5.1 The Council's Constitution requires the Committee to approve an Annual Review setting out the work undertaken by the Committee in the previous

municipal year and to set out the work intended for the following year. The draft Annual Review submitted as Appendix A seeks to summarise the work and achievements of the Committee over the last municipal year and includes:-

- An introduction from the Chair.
- An outline of the role of the Standards Board for England.
- The composition of the Committee.
- A list of achievements in 2007/08.
- The anticipated work over the next twelve months.

5.2 Members may recall that last year the Annual Review was published in a more “user friendly” format so that the work of the Committee was more widely accessible to the Council’s key partners, stakeholders and the public at large. It is intended for the document to be widely circulated through publication in the local press, the website and intranet and displayed on notice boards within the Council and the local libraries.

## **6. Conclusion**

6.1 It is important for the work of the Committee to be widely publicised as Member and Officer conduct is critical to open, transparent and fair decision making.

## **7. Appendix**

### **Appendix A - Draft Annual Review 2007/08.**