NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

14 January 2008

Ethics Training

0.0   PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1   To update Members on ethics training issues.

2.0   BACKGROUND

2.1   At its meeting on 19 March 2007, the Committee agreed a Training Plan for Members on ethical issues, which has been amended over time as necessary. The current Training Plan is attached at Appendix 1, for Members' information.

3.0   TRAINING ISSUES

Training to Members

3.1   Further standards training for Members is being planned for early 2008. Liaison is currently taking place between officers as to a suitable date. It is hoped to arrange the training for a day when Members are already present in County Hall as this should maximise attendance. Group Leaders have been asked to confirm that they will support officers in encouraging attendance at the training.

3.2   The training will include:

- a short introduction;
- brief powerpoint presentation highlighting the key parts of the Code of Conduct;
- a presentation of the Standards Board training DVD; and
- practical case studies.

3.3   Once a date is fixed, contact will be made with the Heads of Legal Services in neighbouring authorities to invite Members of those authorities to the training. Should there be too many Members wishing to attend, then a repeat training session can be organised.

Training to Officers

3.4   Regarding the ethics training to Officers, it is hoped that this will take place by the end of March 2008.

3.5   The training will take place independently of the Officers' Seminars, which are booked up for some time.   The Monitoring Officer will deliver one or two comprehensive training sessions for key Officers before the end of March 2008, covering both the Officers' and Members' Codes of Conduct and the Member/Officer Protocol. Members will be kept informed of progress in this regard.

3.6   Further progress on these issues will be reported orally to the meeting.

4.0 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

4.1 That Members note the contents of this report.

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Background Documents:
None

County Hall
NORTHALLERTON

20 December 2007

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Ethics Training Plan for Members

TRAINING	DATE
To Standards Committee (including substitute members):	
• training on the Annual Assembly's workshop "Role of the Standards Committee"	As part of training to the Committee on 12.11.07.
• preparatory training on the revised Code	Standards Bulletin Members' Seminar – May 07 After Committee's meeting on 4.6.07
• refresher training on quasi judicial decision-making, including: ➢ a review of the Standards Committee's local determination hearing procedures ➢ written findings of fact after a local determination hearing, including: o a checklist of issues the Standards Committee must consider in producing the finding	Prior to a local determination hearing
Post implementation of new Code on 16 May 2007:	
• need to contact District Councils, NYFRA, NYMNPA, YDNPA – explore scope for joint training on revised Code	Amended target – end March 08
• explore opportunity to raise awareness with key partners (eg health, voluntary sector)	Amended target – end March 08
• explore opportunity to undertake training to major suppliers to the Council	Amended target – end March 08
After implementation & adoption by NYCC of new Code:	
• Training for Members	Standards Bulletin (prior to adoption) Members' Seminar – 10 May 07
• Further training to Members and co-opted Members	Amended target – end March 08

TRAINING	DATE

• Training for Officers:
 	
    ➢ provide focused training to key individuals who will cascade it downwards
    ❖ explore scope for joint training with Members?
	Amended target – end March 08

• input by Monitoring Officer into the e-induction training for Officers	Amended target – end March 08
Key Points:	
Training to Members and Officers to cover: • revised Code • Member/Officer Protocol (key points) and be: • practical & case study based • monitor attendance and record on database of training (to be established)	N/A