
Proposed Member Development Programme 2016/17

Committee considering report: Council on 10 December 2015

Lead Member: Councillor Paul Bryant

Date Portfolio Member agreed report: 22 October 2015

Forward Plan Ref: C2930

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 To agree the proposed Member Development Programme for 2016/17.

2. Recommendation

2.1 To ask Members to agree the proposed Member Development Programme for 2016/17.

3. Implications

3.1 **Financial:** The induction programme will be delivered within the existing budget.

3.2 **Policy:** N/A

3.3 **Personnel:** N/A

3.4 **Legal:** N/A

3.5 **Risk Management:** N/A

3.6 **Property:** N/A

3.7 **Other:** N/A

4. Other options considered

N/A

5. Executive Summary

- 5.1 The Member Development Group met on 23 October 2015 and gave consideration to the Member Development Programme 2016/17.
- 5.2 Attendance at the Member Development Sessions is an ongoing concern, although feedback from the sessions is generally very positive. A second repeat afternoon session was introduced to each topic, some time ago, to try to address this and, whilst attendance has improved slightly, numbers are still low.
- 5.3 For the Member Development Programme 2014/15, the best attended session was Child Sexual Exploitation, with 24 Members (46%) attending across both sessions. Twenty-two Members (42%) attended the Education and Schools training, across both sessions. Only 7 Members (13%) attended the Adult Safeguarding training.
- 5.4 Second sessions for two subjects had to be cancelled due to lack of interest.
- 5.5 Sixteen Members (31%) did not attend any sessions and 28 Members (54%) attended 1 or fewer. One Member (2%) attended each session.
- 5.6 To ensure that the programme for 2016/17 addressed the issues that are of most interest and use, Members, Corporate Directors and Heads of Service were canvassed in September for suggestions as to what should be included. Responses were received from four Members and all proposals were given full consideration.
- 5.7 The Member Development Group agreed that a three tier programme should be proposed for 2016/17; mandatory, strategic (linked to the Council's priorities) and specialist. The proposed programme has been populated with this, together with the suggestions received from Members. See Appendix A.
- 5.8 Mindful of the demands upon Members' time, it is also proposed that e-learning sessions be piloted for two further areas of training.
- 5.9 Additionally, the use of webcasting for some sessions to allow them to be viewed remotely will also be explored.
- 5.10 As is existing practice, the presentations from all sessions will be published on the intranet after the repeat session.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 Feedback from Members that do attend the sessions is, on the whole, very good however attendance at the majority of sessions remains very poor. In order to ensure that all Members are fully briefed on the diverse activities, responsibilities and pressures on the Council and in order to best undertake their roles as elected Councillors, Members are encouraged to adopt the proposed programme and make every effort to attend all sessions.

7. Consultation and Engagement

- 7.1 Members, Heads of Service and Corporate Directors were canvassed for suggestions for the proposed programme which was then discussed and agreed by the Member Development Group.

Background Papers:

None

Subject to Call-In:

Yes: No:

The item is due to be referred to Council for final approval
Delays in implementation could have serious financial implications for the Council
Delays in implementation could compromise the Council's position
Considered or reviewed by Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission or associated Task Groups within preceding six months
Item is Urgent Key Decision
Report is to note only

Wards affected:

N/A

Strategic Aims and Priorities Supported:

The proposals will help achieve the following Council Strategy aim:

MEC – Become an even more effective Council

The proposals contained in this report will help to achieve the following Council Strategy priority:

MEC1 – Become an even more effective Council

The proposals contained in this report will help to achieve the above Council Strategy aim and priority by ensuring Members received a comprehensive briefing programme on the Council's key activities.

Officer details:

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8. Appendices

8.1 Appendix A - Equalities Impact Assessment

8.2 Appendix B – Proposed Member Development Programme 2016/17

Equality Impact Assessment

Equality Impact Assessment - Stage One

We need to ensure that our strategies, policies, functions and services, current and proposed have given due regard to equality and diversity.

Please complete the following questions to determine whether a Stage Two, Equality Impact Assessment is required.

Name of policy, strategy or function:	Member Development Programme
Version and release date of item (if applicable):	Draft Member Development Programme for publication in January.
Owner of item being assessed:	Moira Fraser
Name of assessor:	Robert Alexander
Date of assessment:	15 October 2015

Is this a:		Is this:	
Policy	No	New or proposed	No
Strategy	No	Already exists and is being reviewed	Yes
Function	Yes	Is changing	Yes
Service	No		

1 What are the main aims, objectives and intended outcomes of the policy, strategy, function or service and who is likely to benefit from it?	
Aims:	To agree the proposed Member Development Programme for the 2016/17 municipal year.
Objectives:	
Outcomes:	
Benefits:	Agreeing and publishing the Member Development Programme will allow Members to carry out their functions effectively.

2 Note which groups may be affected by the policy, strategy, function or service. Consider how they may be affected, whether it is positively or negatively and what sources of information have been used to determine this. (Please demonstrate consideration of all strands – Age, Disability, Gender)

Reassignment, Marriage and Civil Partnership, Pregnancy and Maternity, Race, Religion or Belief, Sex and Sexual Orientation.)
Comments relating to the item:
It is not envisaged that agreeing the Member Development Programme will affect any individuals apart from Members. Care is taken to ensure that Members (who might have mobility issues) are given enough warning and that all venues booked contain disabled access.

3 Result	
Are there any aspects of the policy, strategy, function or service, including how it is delivered or accessed, that could contribute to inequality?	No
Please provide an explanation for your answer: Please see comments above.	
Will the policy, strategy, function or service have an adverse impact upon the lives of people, including employees and service users?	No
Please provide an explanation for your answer:	

If your answers to question 2 have identified potential adverse impacts and you have answered 'yes' to either of the sections at question 3, then you should carry out a Stage Two Equality Impact Assessment.

If a Stage Two Equality Impact Assessment is required, before proceeding you should discuss the scope of the Assessment with service managers in your area. You will also need to refer to the Equality Impact Assessment guidance and Stage Two template.

4 Identify next steps as appropriate:	
Stage Two required	No.
Owner of Stage Two assessment:	
Timescale for Stage Two assessment:	
Stage Two not required:	

Name: Robert Alexander

Date: 15 October 2015

Please now forward this completed form to Rachel Craggs, the Principal Policy Officer (Equality and Diversity) for publication on the WBC website.