

Title of Report:

A medium term Strategy for Member Development in West Berkshire

Item 4

Report to be considered by: Governance and Audit Committee

Purpose of Report:

To set out a proposed member Development Strategy for the period 2006-2009.

Recommended Action:

To approve the Member Development Strategy for 2006-2009 for onward submission to the Standards Committee and Council for adoption.

Reason for decision to be taken:

To ensure that the Council has a Strategy for dealing with Member Development for the period 2006-2009.

List of other options considered:

N/A

Key background documentation:

N/A

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Supporting Information

1. Background

- 1.1 Since 2001, the Council has developed and delivered a Member Development Programme based, in the main, on a series of presentations on key topics made by Council Officers.
- 1.2 There has been a significant amount of change in Local Government and the public sector generally and this has impacted on members in particular. It is vitally important therefore that Members are supported in their new and changing roles with a robust Member Development Strategy and Programme. The attached Medium Term Strategy covers the period 2006-2009 and sets out “underpinning principles” (Section 3) on the approach to be taken to both developing and delivering training and development opportunities.
- 1.3 The Strategy sets out the various roles undertaken and recognises the plethora of competing demands faced by Members. The Strategy therefore proposes different approaches to the delivery of training and development with particular reference to IT. The Strategy has also included, for the first time, a Module for those “would be Members” thinking of seeking elections at the 2007/08 Local Elections.

Appendices

Member Development Strategy

Consultation Responses

Local Stakeholders:	Member Development Group
Officers Consulted:	Nick Carter
Trade Union:	N/A