

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME BOROUGH COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM'S REPORT TO THE
MEMBER DEVELOPMENT PANEL

3 July, 2012

1. MEMBER DEVELOPMENT PANEL

Submitted by: Member Training and Development Officer
Portfolio: Communications, Transformation and Partnerships
Ward(s) affected: Non-specific

Purpose of the Report

To update Members on the progress made on Member Development since the previous meeting held in April.

Recommendations

(a) That the information be received and the comments noted.

Reasons

To continue the improvement of the level and expertise of our Members and the training offered.

1. Background

At the previous meeting of this Panel, a number of issues were raised regarding ICT matters. In addition, the revised Personal Development Plans and Strategy were agreed.

2. Issues

- 2.1 All newly elected Members have been given access to the Staffordshire E-Learning Programme (STeP).
- 2.2 Training logs can now be listed on Modern.gov and therefore a record is being kept to ensure that a target of 24 hours is reached by each Member.
- 2.3 Personal Development Plans have been sent out and at the time of producing of this report, a 25% response rate had been achieved. Group Leaders had been asked to remind their Members to return them. The results of the questionnaires will be looked at later in the meeting.
- 2.4 Chairs training took place on 25 June through the Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee, along with a Workbook from the LGA and an invitation to undertake the training module on Modern.gov.

2.5 Quasi-Judicial Training has taken place internally and a number of external courses have been offered to Members, namely:

- The role of Elected Members in Securing High Quality Design in Sustainable Development
- Getting to grips with Local Government's new responsibilities for Public Health
- New Councillor Event
- Road Safety Foundation Event for Elected Members

Any funding for these events will come from the Member Training budget.

3. **Outcomes Linked to Sustainable Community Strategy and Corporate Priorities**

3.1 The Achievement of the Member Development Charter will contribute directly to the 'Transforming our Council to Achieve Excellence' priority within the Corporate Plan. Consequently, Members who have the knowledge and skills appropriate to the discharge of their responsibilities will also assist the Council in meeting the other corporate priorities and outcomes associated with the Sustainable Community Strategy.

4. **Legal and Statutory Implications**

4.1 There are no legal implications directly associated with this report.

5. **Equality Impact Assessment**

5.1 There are no equalities implications directly associated with this report.

6. **Financial and Resource Implications**

6.1 There are no budget implications associated with this report.

6.2 The main resource implication associated with the proposals listed in this report is use of Member and officer time. The process will require a minimal commitment of time from Members if it is to be effective and meaningful.

7. **Major Risks**

7.1 There are no major risks associated with this report.

8. **Key Decision Information**

8.1 The proposals within this report are not regarded as Key Decisions in the sense that it should be included within the Forward Plan. However, as this is not regarded as a non-Executive function, a Cabinet (executive) decision is required to give effect to the proposals.

9. **Earlier Cabinet/Committee Resolutions**

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10. **Appendices**

None