



Date:	15 March 2017
Classification:	For General Release
Title:	Code of Conduct: Training
Report of:	The Head of Committee and Governance Services
Wards Involved:	Not applicable
Financial Summary:	There are no financial implications
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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report updates the Committee on the position with regards to the Members Code of Conduct training being held following the adoption of a new Code on 13 July 2016.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the report be noted.
- 2.2 That the Committee note that it is due to review the Member Development Programme at its next meeting.

3. Background Information

- 3.1 The Committee, following the adoption of the Code, agreed a related training programme. This has so far been attended by 35 members. Previously 100% of Council members received training on the Code.
- 3.2 Whilst not as high as had been hoped and given the position in the electoral timetable it is proposed to arrange one further session in order to accommodate Members who have specifically requested a daytime session. Further sessions will be included in the induction programme for all members following the May 2018 Council elections. Those members who have not attended one of the recent sessions will be written to by the Monitoring Officer and advised that the offer of training remains and that she and her senior

colleagues are available to answer questions. The presentation will also be made available.

3.3 The feedback received is included in the training evaluation attached. Regard will be had to this feedback when the session, as part of the May 2018 induction is produced.

3.4 Since the last report three more Member Development sessions have been held:

- Two IT sessions on Office365 and one on scrutiny – the attendance at the IT sessions was seven Members in January and three in February and there were six in attendance at the scrutiny session.
- There are a number of further sessions planned which include Procurement (9th March), rough sleeping and homelessness (April/May) and FOI and data protection (June).
- Dates have been secured for sessions in the year 2017-18 in February and October and an induction programme for Members will be provided in May after the local elections.
- The IT team are developing a session to be held in the summer which is subject to a separate report in this agenda.

3.5 A session on scrutiny was held this session was planned as part of the Corporate Member Development Programme. It was facilitated by Councillor Adams, Muge Dindjer and Ed Hammond from the Centre for Public Scrutiny. The Session covered:

- a) The Richardson Review
- b) Scrutiny's role in proactive policy development
- c) The Scrutiny process and
- d) From Ed Hammond – How Scrutiny can add value during times of transformation

3.5.1 Suggestions arising from discussion

- Broadening the range of sources and people who can input into developing the work programme:
 - An anonymous channel for staff who can report problems with services
 - More public engagement including via the Open Forum meetings
 - Minority party involvement – possibly through attending meetings with Chairman and Cabinet Member
 - Ward members being asked to contribute to work programmes
- Member development re evidence – particularly quantitative evidence (stats, data, etc.)
- Minority members chairing at least one committee as per other boroughs - is there an appetite for this?
- Increasing the PR and communications around scrutiny

- Consider whether the Commission could have a task group- a more proactive role in cross cutting work and joining up portfolios
- Consider scrutiny's role in major procurement exercises to add some challenge

3.5.2 The attendance was select but the quality of the discussion was very good. The session was attended by; Councillors Jason Williams, Patricia McAllister, Tim Roca, David Boothroyd and Robert Rigby.

3.5.3 Cllr Adams comments that it is my assessment that we can do more to try to capture key transformation work streams and integrate scrutiny into the process at the appropriate time. This will be considered as part of the work programme development for next year.

4. Other Implications

4.1 None.

**If you have any questions about this report, please contact
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BACKGROUND PAPERS - None**