



Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Central and Corporate Functions)

Date: 6th April 2009

Subject: Draft Report – Member Development Inquiry

Electoral Wards Affected:

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 In 2007 Leeds City Council was awarded the Improvement and Development Agency's 'Charter for Member Development'. This award recognised the Council's commitment in supporting its Members to fulfill their roles and build capacity. However, whilst acknowledging the quality and effectiveness of Leeds' provision, the external assessors stressed the importance of continuous improvement. Their report made a number of suggestions, including the recommendation to undertake a Scrutiny review of Member Development.
- 1.2 Terms of reference were agreed by the Board in July 2008 and an Inquiry took place over two sessions held in December 2008 and February 2009.
- 1.3 The Board has now produced a draft final report which includes a number of recommendations.

2.0 Consultation

- 2.1 Scrutiny Board Procedure Rule 14.3 states that "where a Scrutiny Board is considering making specific recommendations it shall invite advice from the appropriate Director(s) prior to finalising its recommendations. The Director shall consult with the appropriate Executive Member before providing any such advice" The detail of this advice is shown below.
- 2.2 The Chief Democratic Services Officer has indicated that there is no specific advice that he wishes to provide at this stage other than to point out that the implementation of recommendation three is not within his influence. Councillor Brett as responsible Executive Board Member has also indicated that there is no specific advice that he wishes to provide at this time.

2.3 Once the Board publishes its final report it will be presented to the Executive Board for a formal response.

3.0 Recommendations

3.1 The Board is requested to:-

- (i) Agree the Board's final report and recommendations.
- (ii) Submit the report to the Executive Board for a formal response.

Background papers

None