



Report of Chief Officer, Democratic and Central Services

Report to Member Management Committee

Date: 19 June 2012

Subject: Member Development

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

This report provides the Member Management Committee with the Member Development Annual Report 2011-12. The Annual Report details the achievements made in 2011-12 and outlines the actions to be taken in 2012-13.

The Member Development Working Group was established in December 2005. This Member group is key to the continuing improvement of Member Development and is essential for the Council maintaining Charter Plus status. It is proposed therefore that the group be reinstated for the 2012-13 municipal year.

Recommendations

The Member Management Committee is asked to note the contents of the Member Development Annual Report 2011-12 and to agree the continuation of the Member Development Working Group.

1 Purpose of this report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an update on training and development issues relating to elected Members. Specifically, this report contains the following items:

- the Member Development Annual Report 2011-12
- a recommendation to reinstate the Member Development Working Group for 2012-13.

2 Background information

2.1 Member Development is a key component of the Council's Annual Corporate Governance Statement, specifically in relation to the principle of *Developing Skills and Capacity*, where the Council states that it will ensure that those charged with the governance of the Council have the skills, knowledge and experience they need to perform well.

2.2 Each year an Member Development Annual Report is produced on behalf of the Member Development Working Group. The report summarises its work over the course of the year, any achievements and aims for the following year.

3 Main issues

3.1 A Member Development Working Group consisting of a representative from the Conservative, Labour, Liberal Democrat and Green groups was first established by Member Management Committee in December 2005.

3.2 This report presents the Annual Report of the Working Group for 2011-12. The report details the achievements made this municipal year, and provides a summary of the development courses, events and activities undertaken by elected Members over the course of the year. It also presents a number of proposals for actions to be undertaken by the Group in 2012-13.

3.3 The Member Development Working Group is instrumental in devising the array of learning and development opportunities that are available to Members. The group works on key projects such as the annual learning and development programme, new Members' induction and new learning and development initiatives, and is essential for the Council maintaining the Member Development Charter award. This report proposes that the Group continues in 2012-13.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

4.1.1 The Annual Report has been endorsed by the Member Development Working Group.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

4.2.1 The Member Development Working Group ensures that any initiatives and projects take account of equality issues. We include equality and diversity elements in our training programmes to ensure an embedded approach.

4.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

4.3.1 The aims of the Annual Report support and underpin the priorities and performance measures of the Council Business Plan and City Priority Plans.

4.4 Resources and Value for Money

4.4.1 The Annual Report proposes a number of options for partnership working. Reciprocal arrangements are being explored in order to ensure that any Member development activity is delivered at low cost and is sustainable. Examples of this include our work with Local Government Yorkshire and Humber and the West Yorkshire authorities to develop shared programmes. In addition we will be using the MORE website to develop and share resources across the region.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 This section is not relevant to this report.

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 Some elements of the training programme for Members are compulsory; for example, Planning and Licensing. Councillors are also strongly urged to attend sessions on Corporate Parenting and Safeguarding (Children and Adults) to ensure that they have the relevant legal and procedural knowledge required to manage issues where vulnerable children and adults could be at risk.

5 Conclusions

5.1 This report provides Member Management Committee with the Member Development Annual Report for 2011-12 and proposes that Working Group continues to meet in order to steer all learning and development activity for elected Members.

6 Recommendations

6.1 The Member Management Committee is asked to:

- note the Member Development Annual Report 2011-12 at Appendix A
- agree the continuation of the Member Development Working Group.

7 Background documents¹

None used.

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available for inspection on request for a period of four years following the date of the relevant meeting. Accordingly this list does not include documents containing exempt or confidential information, or any published works. Requests to inspect any background documents should be submitted to the report author.