

DECISION ITEM



REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
MEMBER DEVELOPMENT STEERING GROUP	FINANCE AND DEMOCRACY COMMITTEE	20 JUNE 2016	11
ELECTED MEMBER DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY AND WORKING WITH COUNCILLORS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY			

PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

SUMMARY

To seek approval of the revised Elected Member Development Strategy. This document has been updated by the Member Development Steering Group to reflect current thinking and complement the Corporate Plan. For the first time, it is presented in a 'one page' format.

The Strategy forms part of the Council's on-going commitment to gain re-accreditation under the North West Charter for Elected Member Development as a Council which places a strong emphasis on supporting the development needs of elected members.

The Member Development Steering Group has also given full consideration to the 'Working with Councillors with Disabilities Policy' document which is commended to the Finance and Democracy Committee for approval.

The policy on members with disabilities sets out the arrangements that are in place to assist with the particular needs of councillors who have a disability with the aim of complying with the duties in the Equality Act 2010.

RECOMMENDATION

1. To consider and approve the revised Elected Member Development Strategy.
2. To consider and approve the 'Working with Councillors with Disabilities' policy document.

SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

The Member Development Steering Group undertakes a regular review of its strategies.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES	
Spending your money in the most efficient way to achieve excellent services (Value for Money)	✓
Delivering the services that customers expect of an excellent council (Clean and Green)	✓
Working with all partners (Vibrant Economy)	✓
To make sure Fylde continues to be one of the most desirable places to live (A Great Place to Live)	✓
Promoting Fylde as a great destination to visit (A Great Place to Visit)	✓

REPORT

1. The revised Elected Member Development Strategy (attached at Appendix 1) has been refreshed and revised by the Council's Member Development Steering Group (MDSG) and is commended to the Finance & Democracy Committee for approval. This document has been updated to reflect current thinking and complement the Corporate Plan. For the first time, it is presented in a 'one page' format.
2. The document will be reviewed by the MDSG every other year. The Group will take account of developments in learning and development as well as feedback from recent training and development events. The revisions made are based upon the experience gained since original implementation.
3. The revised Member Development Strategy contributes to corporate priorities, and focusses on increasing member engagement to improve councillors' knowledge and skills.
4. The Strategy seeks to provide a framework for supporting members in the numerous roles which they are required to undertake both within, and outside, the Council. It also recognises the diverse roles of members. The document works in tandem with other key documents including: the Member Induction Training and Development Policy Document and the Working with Councillors with Disabilities Document. See link below:
<http://intranet.fylde.gov.uk/resources/councillor/> The Strategy is designed to assist members in becoming fully equipped with the necessary qualities to enhance the work of the Council, the quality of its services and achieving the best outcomes for the community within Fylde. The strategies recognise the need for different forms of development, both in content and delivery.
5. The Strategy has been considered fully and commented upon by the Member Development Steering Group and the final document is presented to the Finance and Democracy Committee for consideration and approval.
6. The strategy document is an essential element of achieving and maintaining the North West Employers charter mark which the Council has attained in past years. Updating the strategy is part of the work that needs to be undertaken to achieve this aim.
7. The Member Development Steering Group has also considered the 'Working with Councillors with Disabilities Policy' Document which is attached at Appendix 2. The Elected Member Development Strategy details the arrangements that have been put in place to help all councillors to carry out their responsibilities. The policy on members with disabilities sets out the arrangements that are in place to assist with the particular needs of councillors who have a disability. This has been done in line with the Equality Act 2010 and to complement the Elected Member Development Strategy.

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.
Legal	None arising from the report.
Community Safety	None arising from the report.
Human Rights and Equalities	None arising from the report.
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	None arising from the report.
Health & Safety and Risk Management	None arising from the report.

LEAD AUTHOR	TEL	DATE	DOC ID
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LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
Minutes of the Member Development Steering Group	Feb 2016	Democratic Services

Attached documents

1. Elected Member Development Strategy
2. Working with Councillors with Disabilities