



City of Westminster

Standards Committee

Date: 6 July 2017

Classification: For General Release

Title: Member Development Programme

Report of: Member Services Manager

Financial Summary: There are no additional financial implications

Report Author and Contact Details: Janis Best, Member Services Manager
020 7641 3255 jbest@westminster.gov.uk

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Member Development sessions are continuing and this brief report sets out what has been delivered and what is planned.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the report be noted.
- 2.2 That in view of the intention to programme 9 Member Development sessions per annum commencing in 2018-2019 the Committee is asked to give a preliminary indication of the subjects they considered should be covered.

3. Background information

- 3.1. The Standards Committee have previously been updated on the development of a Member Development Programme and the information below sets out what has been provided and attended since the last Committee and what is planned moving forward.
- 3.2. Since the last Committee in November there have been three sessions held, details of these are below, with the numbers of Cllrs who attended. After running the sessions since November it has been decided that only one subject should be covered in each session as this gives time to concentrate on the subject in hand and give Members a chance to ask more questions of the officers.

8 February 2017 – Scrutiny for Members (6 Members attended)

9 March 2017 – Procurement (4 Members attended)

19 April 2017 – Rough sleeping (7 Members attended)

- 3.3 The session planned on FOI/Governance for June has been rescheduled and will now take place in September 2017 also planned for the remainder of the 2017/18 municipal year are as below:

September 2017 – FOI/Governance

October 2017 – Housing Options

November 2017 – Planning and Licensing from a Members' perspective – this would cover what ward members can and can't do at/for Committees to assist their residents January 2018 – a refresher session on Office 365

- 3.4 It is proposed that for the 2018/19 municipal year sessions are held on a monthly basis (excluding July, August and December) these will be placed in the Council diary with subjects to be decided during the year. In order to assist with the planning of these the Committee is asked to indicate the subjects which, following the initial induction programme should be covered in the Member Development sessions.
- 3.5 The meeting will therefore seek ideas from members for the Member Development Programme. Following which a report will be prepared. Attached are the following to assist:

1. Informal note setting out an outline of possible programme.
2. Examples of programmes from other authorities.

The Council is keen to develop a programme which reflects the broad range of expectations the public have of elected Members.

- 3.6 The induction programme to follow the election in May 2018 will be reported to the next Committee in November

4. Other Implications

None

If you have any questions about this report, or wish to inspect one of the background papers, please contact:

Janis Best, Member Services Manager – 020 7641 3255

jb主@westminster.gov.uk