

**TO: COUNCIL  
26 APRIL 2017**

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**MEMBER DEVELOPMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17  
Director of Corporate Services –Democratic and Registration Services**

**1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 The attached Annual Report appraises all Members of the work and progress on Member Development during the year 2016-17. The report informs Members of activities and their outcomes and outlines proposed future activities. The Member Development Strategy has been reviewed and updated by the Member Development Charter Steering Group.

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 That the updated Member Development Strategy 2016 – 2020 be approved;**  
**2.2 That the Member Development Annual Report 2016 - 17 be noted.**

**3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 As part of the Member Development Strategy the Council committed to considering annual reports on the Member Learning and Development progress.
- 3.2 Bracknell Forest Council acknowledges the importance of learning and development for all those who work to deliver good public services and have therefore developed the strategy to support and guide the continuous improvement of Member Learning and Development. The Strategy is reviewed on an annual basis by the Member Development Charter Steering Group to ensure that it remains fit for purpose and focuses on recognising Members' role in ensuring the delivery of the Council's priorities for the benefit of Bracknell Forest residents.

**4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 4.1 None.

**5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 5.1 The Member Development Charter Steering Group has been focused upon the Charter Plus direction of travel assessment and the 360 degree feedback project as well as the review of the Member Development Strategy.
- 5.2 The Strategy which reflects the new narrative of the Council Plan and supports the Council's priorities was adopted by the Council in April 2016. The Steering Group has undertaken its annual review to ensure that it remains fit for purpose. As a result of the review the Strategy has been updated to incorporate the approach towards cost sharing with other authorities, to highlight the evaluation process and to refer to the development of an organisational development strategy. The Strategy is appended to the Member Development Annual report as Annex B.

## **6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS**

### Borough Solicitor

- 6.1 There are no specific legal implications arising from this report.

### Borough Treasurer

- 6.2 The costs associated with the Member Development work detailed in the Annual Report 2016/17 have been contained within the 2016/17 budgets for approved conferences (£9,600) and Member training (£6,760).

### Equalities Impact Assessment

- 6.3 The Member Development Strategy and the Charter framework have an inclusive approach embedded within them. Training in Equalities issues is also a component of the Member Development Programme.

### Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 6.4 Councillors have a pivotal role in taking forward the Council's objectives, therefore effective Member development is essential to ensure that councillors enhance their knowledge, capabilities, networks and experiences and learn new skills. Without it there is a risk that the Council will not be as well placed to deliver its objectives.

## **7 CONSULTATION**

### Principal Groups Consulted

- 7.1 Member Development Charter Steering Group.

### Method of Consultation

- 7.2 Meetings and emails.

### Representations Received

- 7.3 All representations have been incorporated within the final documents.

### Background Papers

None

### Contact for further information

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