

TO: **COUNCIL**  
**27 APRIL 2016**

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**MEMBER DEVELOPMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2015/16**  
**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 2015-16. The report informs Members of activities and their outcomes and outlines proposed future activities. The previous Member Development Strategy has been revised to reflect the narrative of the new Council Plan.

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 That the Member Development Strategy 2016 – 2020 be approved**
- 2.2 That the Member Development Annual Report 2015 - 16 be noted.**

**3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 As part of the previous Member Development Strategy the Council committed to considering annual reports on the Member Learning and Development progress.
- 3.2 The current Member Development Strategy has come to an end. The new Strategy spans the next four years and has been prepared in the context of achievement so far and focuses on recognising Members' role in ensuring the delivery of the Council's priorities for the benefit of Bracknell Forest residents. Bracknell Forest Council recognises the importance of learning and development for all those who work to deliver good public services and have therefore developed this strategy to support and guide the continuous improvement of Member Learning and Development.

**4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 4.1 None.

**5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 5.1 The Member Development Charter Steering Group has been focused upon the evaluation of the induction programme and consideration of a new Member Development Strategy for the next four years.

**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 2015/16 have been contained within the 2015/16 budgets for approved conferences (£9,610) and Member training (£13,050).

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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