

DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE
15 OCTOBER 2014

Minutes of the meeting of the Democratic Services Committee of Flintshire County Council held at Delyn Committee Room on Wednesday, 15 October 2014

PRESENT: **Councillor Robin Guest (Chairman)**

Councillors Alex Aldridge, Glyn Banks, Haydn Bateman, Chris Bithell, Clive Carver, Veronica Gay, George Hardcastle, Dave Mackie, Owen Thomas, David Williams, David Wisinger and Arnold Woolley

APOLOGIES: Councillors David Cox, Ian Dunbar, Tim Newhouse, Neville Phillips, Paul Shotton and Nigel Steele-Mortimer.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Officer (Governance), Democracy and Governance Manager, Member Engagement Manager, and Committee Officer

8. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (INCLUDING WHIPPING DECLARATIONS)

There were no declarations of interest.

9. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 9 July 2014, were submitted.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes be received, approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

10. NATIONAL MEMBER DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2014-17

The Member Engagement Manager introduced a report on the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) National Member Development Strategy for 2014-17. He provided background information and advised that the WLGA draft Member Development Strategy and the WLGA first draft of their Continuing Professional Development for Councillors competency framework was appended to the report. The Member Engagement Manager explained that the WLGA had asked that Authorities bring both documents to the attention of their Democratic Services Committees as feedback was vital to ensure the appropriate focus was retained.

During consideration of the documents it was agreed that the following change be made to the draft Continuing Professional Development for Councillors: that the heading in Section 1, 'Meeting Participation' be amended to read 'Meeting Preparation and Participation'.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the draft National Member Development Strategy for 2014-17 be noted; and
- (b) That in response to consultation on the draft Continuing Professional Development for Councillors it be indicated to the WLGA that the heading in Section 1, 'Meeting Participation' be amended to read 'Meeting Preparation and Participation'.

11. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman advised that following a request from a Member, a questionnaire would be circulated to all Members concerning response times to their enquiries. Feedback on the responses to the questionnaire would be reported to the next meeting of the Committee on 28 January 2015.

12. MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

There were no members of the press or public in attendance.

(The meeting started at 3.55 pm and ended at 4.10 pm)

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Chairman