

**FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO:**           **STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**DATE:**               **MONDAY, 1 SEPTEMBER 2014**

**REPORT BY:**       **MONITORING OFFICER**

**SUBJECT:**           **MEMBER TRAINING**

**1.00**   **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.01    To provide the committee with an update on arrangements for Member training.

**2.00**   **BACKGROUND**

2.01    During consideration of the committee's forward work programme at its meeting on the 7 July 2014 it was resolved that a report on Member training be submitted to the September meeting of the committee. This was in the context of Member training having recently been discussed at a Group Leaders meeting and a report being submitted to the Democratic Services Committee meeting on the 9 July 2014. The reason for discussion at both meetings was to explore ways in which low attendance at some Member development events could be addressed.

2.02    The following points emerged from the discussion at the Group Leaders meeting on the 3 July 2014:-

- To provide shorter training immediately prior to a scheduled meeting.
- To explore providing training electronically.

2.03    At its meeting on the 9 July 2014 the Democratic Services Committee considered the report attached as Appendix A. The committee resolved to endorse the two points arising from the Group Leaders meeting, together with the three points listed in paragraph 3.03. The Democracy & Governance Manager has since prepared the short guidance note attached as Appendix B which has been circulated to relevant officers.

**3.00**   **CONSIDERATIONS**

3.01    All new members of the Council receive extensive induction training so as to facilitate their being able to act as efficient and effective members of the Council at the earliest opportunity. In addition a

Member development programme is agreed by the Democratic Services Committee each year with each topic being offered on at least two different dates and available to all Members. Further as explained in paragraph 3.02 of Appendix A those Members who serve on the Planning, Licensing, Audit or Pensions Committees are required to attend training relating to the work of such committees.

- 3.02 For the last two years it has been the practice to hold a half hour training session for members of the Standards Committee prior to each of its meetings. It is also the practice to hold regular training sessions on the Members' Code of Conduct, not only for Flintshire members but also for members Town & Community Councils.

#### **4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.01 For the committee to note the various arrangements in place to provide training to Members and co-opted members of the Council.

#### **5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.01 None as a result of this report.

#### **6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT**

- 6.01 None as a result of this report.

#### **7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

- 7.01 None as a result of this report.

#### **8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT**

- 8.01 None as a result of this report.

#### **9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.01 None as a result of this report.

#### **10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED**

- 10.01 With Group Leaders and Democratic Services Committee.

#### **11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN**

- 11.01 With Group Leaders and Democratic Services Committee.

#### **12.00 APPENDICES**

- 12.01 Appendix A – Report to the Democratic Services Committee 9 July.  
Appendix B – Guidance Note on Member Training

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985**  
**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

None

**Contact Officer:** Peter Evans  
**Telephone:** 01352 702304  
**Email:** [peter.j.evans@flintshire.gov.uk](mailto:peter.j.evans@flintshire.gov.uk)