

REPORT OF MEMBER TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT PANEL

LEAD OFFICER: Tim Capper, Democratic Services Manager
EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Councillor Norman Williams
LEAD MEMBER: Councillor Margaret Barnes, Chair, Member Training & Development Panel

Summary: Presents for agreement a draft statement of intent and strategy on member training and development and summarises a programme of training agreed by the Member Training and Development Panel for the current year based on outcomes of Personal Development Plan interviews.

Recommendation:	(a) That the preamble to the training and development programme be agreed as the Council's statement of intent and strategy on member training and development; (b) The programme as agreed by the Member Training and Development Panel be noted together with progress in moving towards NWE0 Charter accreditation
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Impact on delivering the Corporate Plan: A robust and comprehensive Member training and development programme is vital to achieving all the Council's objectives.

Impact on other statutory objectives and Health and Safety None

Financial and human resource implications: None of this report

Project & Risk Management: None

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Council will be aware that the majority of Councillors participated in Personal Development Plan interviews in late 2005 and early 2006. The purpose of the interviews is to identify training and development needs for

each individual, which are the key building blocks for a comprehensive and relevant training programme.

2. TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

2.1 The Member Training and Development Panel has considered and agreed a programme based on the needs identified in the PDP's. This programme is attached at Appendix "B", and it will form the cornerstone of our training and development over the next 12 months. Reporting of the programme to Council at this meeting is the first stage in a process of ensuring all Councillors are aware of training and development opportunities which are available. The next will include publication of the programme on the web site and a member training newsletter. A start has already been made on delivering training to meet the most significant single need to emerge from the PDP's, which was IT training.

2.2 The programme includes a preamble (Appendix "A") which sets out the principles which underpin the Council's approach to member training and development, and the respective roles of Councillors and officers. It is recommended that this is endorsed by the Council as its formal statement of intent and strategy on Member development.

3 NWEO ACCREDITATION

3.1 The Council's policy is to achieve accreditation to the North West Employers Organisation Member Development Charter, and we have formally registered our interest in being assessed for accreditation this year. The work already done in the last 6 months represents a good start in completing the necessary stages required to qualify, and a further meeting is being held with NWEO on 19 April to clarify outstanding issues still needing to be addressed.

List of Appendices

Appendix "A" – Training Strategy

Appendix "B" – Training Programme

Appendix "A" – Strategy and Programme

List of Background Documents:

List of Consultees:

Portfolio Holder; Chair and Deputy Chair of Panel