MEMBER DEVELOPMENT PANEL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 14 MARCH 2014 IN
THE NICHOLSON ROOM, COPELAND CENTRE AT 9:00AM

Present: Councillors Lena Hogg (Chair); David Riley and Jeanette Williams.

Officers: Tim Capper, Democratic Services Manager and Clive Willoughby, Member Services Technical Support Officer.

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Allan Forster; Ian Hill and Keith Hitchen.

Also Present: Councillors John Bowman.

MDP 21/13   Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2014 were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

MDP 22/13   Member Training Programme 2013-14 Update

An update on the Member Development Programme was provided as follows:

Within Section B (Essential Training)
- Planning for Non Planning Panel Members – This had not been delivered and would be reconsidered for the 2014-15 programme.
- Welfare Reform – This topic was delivered on 11 Dec 2013, but would be updated as Welfare Reform changes come into force and further sessions held in 2014-15.

Within Section C (Training to meet identified needs)
- Local Government Finance & Funding – delivered 23 Jan 2014
- Time Management – delivered 6 Mar 2014
- Leading, Chairing & Facilitating Meetings – delivered 13 Mar 2014
- Being an Effective Ward Councillor – scheduled for 31 Mar 2014
- Health Inequalities - This had not been delivered and would be reconsidered for the 2014-15 programme.

RESOLVED – that
a) the updates be made, and
b) the report be noted.

MDP 23/13   <u>**Member Development Newsletter**</u>

Members were advised that the Member Development Newsletter had not yet been issued due to a lack of content.
Items or ideas for inclusion could be forwarded to the Member Services Technical Support Officer, however, it was further suggested that the next issue be delayed until the new Municipal Year.

RESOLVED – that the Member Development Newsletter be delayed until the new Municipal Year.

MDP 24/13   <u>**Members' IT**</u>

Following a question raised at Full Council on 27 February 2014 regarding Members' IT requirements, the Panel considered the current IT capabilities (Laptops & Blackberrys) and the possibilities that could be utilised in the future (Notebooks/Tablets).
During the discussion, it was suggested that a recommendation from the Member Development Panel be made to the Executive via the Chief Executive, that an IT Policy Development Group be set up to consider Members' IT needs.

RESOLVED – that a recommendation from the Member Development Panel be made to the Executive via the Chief Executive, that an IT Policy Development Group be set up to consider Members' IT needs.

The meeting closed at 9:55am

Chairman………………………………………………..

Date…………………………………………………..........