

MEMBER DEVELOPMENT PANEL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 21 JUNE 2013 AT THE NICHOLSON ROOM, COPELAND CENTRE AT 10:00AM

Present: Councillors Lena Hogg (Chairman); Ian Hill; John Kane and Jeanette Williams.

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

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Allan Forster; Keith Hitchen and David Riley.

MDP 01/13 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2013 were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

MDP 02/13 North West Employers Organisation (NWEO) Councillor resources – Quick guides to policy reform

The Panel were advised that following the recent Community Leadership series the briefing documents had been made available on-line at www.nwemployers.org.uk/media-library/community-leadership-series.html

The quick guides include topics such as:-

- Community Leadership
- Localism
- Welfare Reform
- Economic Stewardship
- Social Growth

It was suggested that this be an item for the next Member Development Newsletter.

It was further suggested that 'where and how to obtain funding locally' be a possible topic for the next round of briefings.

RESOLVED – that

- a) the update be noted,
- b) this be an item for the next Member Development Newsletter.

- c) 'where and how to obtain funding locally' be put forward as a possible topic for the next round of briefings.

MDP 03/13 **PDP Refresh/Training Programme 2013-2014**

Members were advised that the Training Programme for 2012/2013 was mostly delivered and consideration was now required to the 2013-14 programme.

It was suggested that before the programme could be developed a PDP refresh to identify any new individual needs be conducted.

During the discussion that followed, this suggestion was modified to a reissue of last year's PDPs to Members and they be asked to review and add any new topics they now require.

RESOLVED – that the 2012 PDPs be reissued to Members within the next two weeks, by the Democratic Services Manager, and they be asked to review and add any new topics they now require.

MDP 04/13 **Training for Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

The Panel were advised that it was proposed to provide training for Overview and Scrutiny Committee members.

The suggestion was for two half day sessions, one covering the Four OSC principles and the Work Plan with the second on Questioning and Listening skills.

The twilight sessions would be externally sourced and be held on two dates in early September.

RESOLVED – that the training for Overview and Scrutiny Committee members be arranged for early September.

MDP 05/13 **NVQ Lakes College**

The Panel received an update on the Equality and Diversity NVQ course which had been run by Lakes College.

Four Councillors started the course, Councillor Peter Stephenson has completed and passed Part 1, Councillors Lena Hogg, John Bowman and Jackie Bowman have completed and passed Parts 1 & 2.

Their certificates are being prepared and will be delivered from Lakes College as soon as they are available.

It was suggested that the certificates should be presented by the Mayor at the next Full Council meeting and that an article (with photo) be included in a future issue of the Member Development newsletter.

RESOLVED – that

- a) the update be received,
- b) the certificates be presented by the Mayor at the next Full Council meeting, and
- c) an article (with photo) be included in a future issue of the Member Development newsletter.

MDP 06/13 **Planning Summer School 2013**

The Panel were made aware of the upcoming Planning Summer School to be held at Leeds University over the weekend 6-9 September 2013.

Following a discussion, it was suggested that if a request was made from the Planning Panel for a member (or members) to attend, this Panel would be prepared to contribute towards the costs.

It was further suggested that if a request was received for two members to attend, Member Development should fund one attendee. If the request was for one member to attend, Member Development should fund 50% of the costs. Both should be subject to that (those) member(s) having not previously attended a Planning Summer School and that the attendee(s) provide a report to this panel after the event.

RESOLVED – that if a request be received for two members to attend Planning Summer School 2013, Member Development fund one attendee. If a request be received for one member to attend, Member Development fund 50% of the costs. Both would be subject to the member(s) having not previously attended a Planning Summer School and that the attendee(s) provide a report to this panel after the event.

MDP 07/13 **North West Employers Organisation (NWEO) Councillor Development Regional Workshops Programme June 2013 to January 2014**

Members were advised of a number of Councillor Development Regional Workshops being arranged by North West Employers Organisation (NWEO).

During the discussion of this item, it was suggested that if there was sufficient demand (including Councillors, Parish Councils, Locality Groups and Allerdale Borough Council), NWEO be approached and asked if these could be held locally.

It was further suggested that this be an item for the next Member Development Newsletter.

RESOLVED – that

- a) the update be noted,
- b) this be an item for the next Member Development Newsletter.
- c) details be forward to Parish Councils and Locality Groups

MDP 08/13 **Corporate Governance**

The Panel were advised that a report was to be taken to the Audit and Governance Committee on 26 June 2013 regarding Corporate Governance, which is a subject that all Councillors need to be aware of.

Following a discussion it was suggested that a 30 minute Awareness Session be held immediately prior to the next Full Council meeting on 12 September 2013 and that this be advertised in the next Member Development Newsletter.

RESOLVED – that to promote awareness of Corporate Governance to all Members,

- a) a 30 minute Awareness Session be held immediately prior to the next Full Council meeting on 12 September 2013, and
- b) this be advertised in the next Member Development Newsletter.

MDP 09/13 Newsletter

Members of the Panel were invited to submit contributions for the next Member Development Newsletter.

Suggested items for inclusion were North West Employers Organisation (NWEO) Councillor resources quick guide to policy reform, PDP refresh, Corporate Governance and (NWEO) Councillor Development Regional Workshops programme.

RESOLVED – that the Member Services Technical Support Officer prepare and issue the next Member Development Newsletter.

The meeting closed at 10:55am

Chairman.....

Date.....