

MEMBER DEVELOPMENT PANEL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 30 OCTOBER 2012 AT THE NICHOLSON ROOM, COPELAND CENTRE AT 10:00AM

Present: Councillors Lena Hogg (Chairman); John Bowman; John Kane; David Riley; Robert Salkeld and Jeanette Williams.

Officers: Tim Capper, Democratic Services Manager; Joanne Parker, Web and E-Communications Officer; Rob Somerville, ICT Technical Officer and Clive Willoughby, Member Services Technical Support Officer.

Apologies for Absence: Councillor Ian Hill.

MDP 67/12 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 October 2012 were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

MDP 68/12 New Website Demonstration

As requested at the last meeting of this Panel, Members received a demonstration of the new Council website from the Web & E-Communications Officer and ICT Technical Officer. Questions and comments from Members were then invited.

Members were impressed with the design and ease of use of the new website and thanked the Web & E-Communications Officer and ICT Technical Officer for their work in getting the site to this stage.

RESOLVED – that the presentation on the new Copeland website be received.

MDP 69/12 Training Needs Analysis and draft Training Programme

The first draft of the Training Programme for 2012/2013 was distributed to the Panel.

Members were then guided through the programme by the Democratic Services Manager. As in previous years, it was explained that the programme was divided into four sections.

Section A, Induction Training, would be applicable if/when a new Councillor was elected during the period of the programme.
 Section B ,Essential Training, would cover subjects of strategic importance to all members (e.g. Risk Management) and those of particular relevance to individual committees (e.g. Planning, Licensing, Audit)
 Section C, Training to Meet Identified Needs, would include those subjects highlighted by more than one Member during the PDP process
 Section D, Training to Meet Identified Needs Non Priority, would include those subjects highlighted during the PDP process by one Member.

Following a discussion, it was suggested that Health & Safety Training and a session for Planning Issues for non-Planning Panel members be added.

RESOLVED – that the draft Training Programme be agreed subject to the modifications suggested..

MDP 70/12 North West Charter on Elected Member Development Level 1 Review

Members were advised that the Chair of Member Development Panel, the Portfolio Holder and Member Services Technical Support Officer had attended the North West Employers award ceremony on 26 October to receive the collect the Elected Member Development Level 1 Review award, which was displayed, together with the sign and bound copy of the assessment visit result.

An article, including a photograph, would be included in the next Member Development Newsletter.

A discussion then followed regarding the possibility of progressing to Level Two and the timescale in which this should be achieved. It was suggested that this be an agenda item for a future meeting.

RESOLVED – that the update be received.

The meeting closed at 11:30am

Chairman.....

Date.....