



REPORT OF:	The Monitoring Officer
TO:	Standards Committee
DATE:	20th October 2016

SUBJECT: Member Training Update to the Standards Committee

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To update Members on the 2016/17 Member Training Programme

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked to:

- (i) Note the update report and comment/advise on this year's member training programme.
- (ii) Receive a presentation on the Council's new training portal which includes access for Members

3. BACKGROUND

The Committee has a role in promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct by councillors/members.

In fulfilling this role of advising, training or arranging to train members on matters related to the Code of Conduct the Committee oversees the development of a member training and development programme which ensures that councillors can fulfil their obligations under the Code of Conduct in an effective and efficient way, supporting delivery of services to the Community.

The Code of Conduct covers a range of behaviours and expectations expected of Councillors in public office.

This requires members understand and are aware of key responsibilities placed upon them in their roles. Examples include those relating to fair and informed decision making, personal conduct requirements and information management.

The Monitoring Officer in response to feedback from members has put together this year's programme (Attached), and members are invited to note, comment and advise on the programme.

In addition this year the Council has introduced the Virtual Learning Environment Portal, where all Council Officers and Members can access e-learning courses and in August and September 2016 a number of elected members received training on how to access this system and access the training opportunities it provides.

A short demonstration of the System has been arranged for this Committee meeting.

4. RATIONALE

The Committee has a role in promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct by councillors and co-opted members. The advising on the provision of training or arranging to train councillors on matters related to the code of conduct is set out in Part 3, Section 5 of the Council's Constitution.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The statutory provisions for the Standards Framework are set out in the Localism Act 2011. The advising on the provision of training or arranging to train councillors on matters related to the code of conduct is set out in Part 3, Section 5 of the Council's Constitution.

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

A governance framework in local authorities is necessary to promote and maintain high ethical standards, and to ensure public confidence.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None contained in this report.

8. CONSULTATIONS

Feedback from members on the training programme has been collated from discussions at the early training events this year in the Programme. Officers have also been consulted reflecting the common issues faces by members in fulfilling their roles. The Council's arrangements for promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct have also been discussed by the Standards Committee.

Chief Officer/Member

Contact Officer: David Fairclough
Date: 29th September 2016

Background Papers: The Localism Act 2011