



REPORT OF:	The Monitoring Officer
TO:	Standards Committee
ON:	27 September 2023

SUBJECT: Member Training 2023/24 - Update

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To update the Committee of the local training programme planned for 2034/24 review

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Standards Committee is requested to note the local training programme planned for 2023/24 (**Appendix**).

3. BACKGROUND

The Standards Committee has a key role in directing the provision of member development in order to ensure that elected members receive training, which meets their needs as decision makers and ward councillors. The Committee therefore reviews and updates the training and development needs each year, and considers the training programme. The programme includes items that the Committee consider mandatory and areas that it also feels necessary for members to be aware of in carrying out their duties generally as a Councillor and in their specific roles.

4. RATIONALE

The Council offers a training and development programme for Members. This includes:

- an online MeLearning e-learning facility, which has a selection of courses available to all Members
- mandatory annual training for elected members sitting on Planning & Highways and Licensing Committees
- essential 'online' training courses for DOJO Cyber Security Awareness and Information Governance for Elected Members

In addition to the above, a local training programme is to be for 2023/24. These will include briefings and presentations delivered online (MS Teams), in-person, or

through the 'hybrid' method where an in-person event can be joined remotely by other councillors. Following discussion at the meeting of the Committee in June, items of the local training programme were considered and now been finalised (**Appendix**).

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Members are expected to ensure they are regularly updated with the necessary knowledge of key legislation relating to their work as Councillors as well as their specific roles. This is particularly important to enable Councillors to make informed decisions. The training and development opportunities offered would assist in the delivery of that objective.

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Member training and development is necessary for providing elected members with key knowledge to enable them to undertake their public roles. The Council should therefore put in place adequate provision for training and development for its members (particularly the newly elected members), and provide support and encouragement to members to undertake the training provided.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The local training that is delivered either through MS Teams and in-person for better engagement, require the investment of time and resources from senior officers and the Governance team.

9. CONSULTATIONS

The Committee discussed items for the member training programme. The Statutory Governance Officers also considered the training programme to ensure key topical items were included. Chief Officers were also be consulted for topics of training relating to their operational areas.

Chief Officer/Member

Contact Officer: Asad Laher, Deputy Director – Legal & Governance and Monitoring Officer.

Date: 12 September 2023

Background Papers: None