

REPORT TO:	ETHICS COMMITTEE 21 SEPTEMBER 2022
SUBJECT:	MEMBER LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT 2022-23
LEAD OFFICER:	STEPHEN LAWRENCE-ORUMWENSE, DIRECTOR OF LEGAL SERVICES & MONITORING OFFICER
WARDS:	ALL
CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT/AMBITIOUS FOR CROYDON:	
The Council has determined that the Ethics Committee shall be responsible for receiving reports from the Monitoring Officer on matters of probity and ethics for consideration and to agree programmes of advice and training for Members.	
FINANCIAL IMPACT:	
There are no additional financial implications arising from the contents of this report.	

RECOMMENDATION:
The Committee is asked to
1. Note the content of the report.
2. Consider whether there is any further training for Members, not already identified, that should be commissioned.

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides the Committee with an overview of Member Learning and Development activity to date in the 2022-23 Municipal Year. This activity is led and monitored by the Member Learning and Development Panel.
- 1.2 The role of the Members' Learning and Development Panel is to co-ordinate a training and development programme for Members. At the meeting of the Panel on 27 January 2022, Members agreed the induction and training programme to be delivered for the 2022-23 municipal year; progress on the delivery of programme was reviewed by the Members' Learning and Development Panel at its meeting on 26 July 2022.
- 1.3 The Members Training Plan 2022-23 is attached at Appendix 1 and shows the list of training that has already been completed, and the remaining sessions that are scheduled/to be scheduled for the remainder of the municipal year.
- 1.4 Attendance at all training sessions is recorded and published on Councillors' pages on the Council website. A summary of attendance up to the date of publication is attached at Appendix 2.

2. MEMBER LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY 2022-23

- 2.1 The Council has a £21,000 annual budget for Member training and conferences, circa £5,000.00 has been spent in 2022-23 with £2,000.00 already allocated for further training. This is overseen by the cross-party Member Learning and Development Panel who meet three times a year. The Panel Members are Councillors Patsy Cummings (Chair) ,Jade Appleton, Louis Carserides, Mario Creatura, Mark Johnson, Enid Mollyneaux and Nikhil Thampi.
- 2.2 The training sessions covered in Appendix 1 have been delivered by a mix of in house and external resource and at both in person and virtual sessions.
- 2.3 Where training has been mandated, sessions have been repeated at different times to ensure that all Members have been able to attend. The Members' Learning & Development Panel will continue to review attendance of sessions to ensure they are accessible to all Councillors and that sessions are repeated where necessary.
- 2.4 The Local Government Association (LGA) have facilitated two away days, one for Cabinet, and one for Cabinet and the Corporate Management Team jointly. The Cabinet are signed up to the relevant LGA Leadership Essentials programmes for their portfolios and the Executive Mayor is enrolled in the LGA Leadership Academy programme for later in 2022.
- 2.5 The Executive Mayor and Cabinet were provided a training session on Companies and Shareholder Responsibilities in August 2022 and have been provided peer mentors from other local authorities as part of their development programme.
- 2.6 At the last meeting of the Panel, it was agreed that all Members would be surveyed on if there was any additional training, or any training on topics that had already been covered, but that Councillors would like to see repeated with a specific focus. The feedback from this will be reported to the next meeting of the Panel.
- 2.7 At the September 2022 meeting of the Panel, Members will be recommended to approve an all Member survey asking for general feedback on the programme delivered so far.

3. MEMBER LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT 2022-23

- 3.1 Members' learning and development will continue to be focused towards responding to the challenges facing the Council. The action plans arising from the [Report in the Public Interest](#) and the [Strategic Review of Companies](#) have identified a number of areas of training need for Members which will need to be scheduled. These include the need to improve Members' awareness of the Council's finances, investments and risk.
- 3.2 The Members' Learning and Development Panel will continue to monitor the training requirements of Members to ensure that training is focused towards those areas of greatest need.

4. FINANCIAL AND RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 There are no direct financial or other implications arising from this report.

5. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

5.1. Investment in Member learning and development demonstrates the Council's commitment to good governance and promoting and maintaining high standards of Member conduct in accordance with its duty under section 27(1) of the Localism Act 2011.

5.2. Approved by Looqman Desai, Deputy Monitoring Officer on behalf of the Director of Legal Services & Monitoring Officer.

CONTACT OFFICER:

Simon Trevaskis

Senior Democratic Services & Governance Officer – Scrutiny

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1: Members Training Plan 2022-23

Appendix 2: Training Attendance Log 2022-23

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

None