

DECISION-MAKER:	GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE		
SUBJECT:	MEMBER LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT		
DATE OF DECISION:	28 APRIL 2014		
REPORT OF:	HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES		
<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
AUTHOR:	Name:	Richard Ivory	Tel: 023 8083 2794
	E-mail:	richard.ivory@southampton.gov.uk	
Director	Name:	Mark Heath	Tel: 023 8083 2371
	E-mail:	mark.heath@southampton.gov.uk	

STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY
None.

BRIEF SUMMARY

This report concerns the proposed strategy for Member Learning and Development together with the outline programme for Member Development for 2014/15.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (i) that the Member Learning and Development Strategy be approved; and
- (ii) that the outline programme for Member Development for 2014/15 be endorsed.

REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Governance Committee is responsible for overseeing and managing programmes of guidance, advice and training on ethics, standards and probity for Councillors and employees, and on the Council's Members' Code of Conduct.
2. To provide an opportunity for Governance Committee to comment and make recommendations on the strategy and outline programme for Member Development for 2014/15.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

3. None. Governance Committee is responsible for overseeing Member Learning and Development, although Members have the option of approving or rejecting the proposals within the report.

DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)

4. Elected Members of the Authority seek to serve the communities they represent and the Council as a whole to the best of their ability. To do this the Council needs to ensure that all Members, including the co-opted members, are supported in developing the necessary skills to undertake their various roles.
5. To support this aim, the Members Development Strategy, sets out the vision

and aims of Member Development, the values to which the Council will adhere and how development will be identified, delivered and managed.

6. To support this aim, the strategy has been developed and has the backing of all political parties. Specifically, consultation on the strategy and the outline for Member Development for 2014/15 was undertaken with the Group Leaders, who have responsibility for the strategic direction and evaluation of Member Development.
7. The strategy concerns the dedicated support that will be given to elected and co-opted members to help them fulfil their roles and contribute to the success and objectives of the Council. It is however, recognised that elected members will have their own political views and will receive political leadership and support from their political groups.
8. A Member Development Charter has been developed by the Local Government Association (LGA) and is supported by South East Employers. The Charter is a nationally recognised accreditation scheme of good practice principles for learning and development. Should the Council wish to achieve the Member Development Charter, it would need to have a clear framework to reflect and ensure its members have access to effective and relevant learning and development.
9. Governance Committee are invited to comment on and approved the Member Development Strategy (Appendix 1) together with the outline programme for Member Development for 2014/15 (Appendix 2).

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Capital/Revenue

10. None, all costs will be contained within the recently increased member training budget.

Property/Other

11. None

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:

12. Section 111 – Local Government Act 1972

Other Legal Implications:

13. N/A

POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS

14. N/A

KEY DECISION? No

WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	None
------------------------------------	------

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices

1.	Member Development Strategy
2.	Outline Programme for Member Development for 2014/15

Documents In Members' Rooms

1.	None
----	------

Equality Impact Assessment

Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) to be carried out.	No
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----

Other Background Documents

Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:

Title of Background Paper(s)

Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)

1.	None	
----	------	--