

PRESENT: Councillor Greenall (Chairman)

Councillors: Mrs Blake
Mrs R Evans
Owen

Officers: Principal Overview and Scrutiny Officer (Mrs C A Jackson)
Member Services / Civic Support Officer (Mrs J Brown)

31. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Mrs Houlgrave.

32. SUBSTITUTIONS

There were no substitutions.

33. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

34. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Member Development Commission held on 19 September 2013 be noted.

35. MEMBER TRAINING - SUMMARY OF EVENTS SEPTEMBER 2013 TO PRESENT

Members considered the report of the Borough Solicitor as contained on pages 25 to 30 of the Book of Reports, which provided an update on Member training undertaken since September 2013.

It was noted that many of the training events were 'free'. Reference was made to the number of 'In House' training sessions held during this period.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

36. FEEDBACK FROM MEMBER DEVELOPMENT REPRESENTATIVES

The Chairman and Members of the Commission suggested that 'Member Training' should be a regular item on future Group Meeting Agenda's and that any training needs arising be brought to the attention of Member Services.

RESOLVED: A. That the feedback be noted.

B. That the Member Development Representatives take forward the suggestion that 'Member Training' be a regular item on future Group Meeting Agenda's.

37. TRAINING EVENTS

The Principal Overview and Scrutiny Officer provided an update in relation to training events for Members.

It was reported that Members had attended many events during the Municipal Year and feedback, particularly from 'In-house' events, had been positive. Following the elections an Induction event would be held for Members new to the Council.

Members would continue to be kept informed of future training events in accordance with the protocol relating to training / conferences.

Members discussed In-house training, particularly the content of the annual Planning Committee and Licensing & Appeals / Gambling Committee training sessions. It was suggested that Information provided in the sessions could include an explanation of acronyms and reference numbers regularly used in reports and decisions.

RESOLVED: A. That the update be noted.

- B. That the suggestion, in relation to information provided at the Annual Planning and Licensing Training Sessions, be passed to the Assistant Director Planning and Assistant Director Community Services.

38. WORK PROGRAMME 2014/15

Members considered the Work Programme as circulated on page 31 of the Book of Reports.

It was agreed that feedback from the Member Induction be included as an item on the September Work Programme.

RESOLVED: That the Work Programme be noted subject to the addition of an item 'Member Induction' (September 2014).

39. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The dates of future meetings were agreed.

RESOLVED: That the dates of Member Development Commission meetings for 2014/15 be 18 September 2014 and 12 March 2015, subject to confirmation with the Chairman.