



## STANDARDS COMMITTEE – 2ND MARCH 2015

**SUBJECT: MEMBERS TRAINING PROGRAMME 2015**

**REPORT BY: INTERIM HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES/MONITORING OFFICER**

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### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To provide members of the Standards Committee with an overview of the Members Training Programme for 2015 as set out in Appendix 1.

### **2. SUMMARY**

- 2.1 This report provides an overview of the Members Training Programme for 2015 as set out in Appendix 1.

### **3. LINKS TO STRATEGY**

- 3.1 The introduction of the Members Training Programme has assisted in the implementation of the Council's Governance Improvement Action Plan in order to improve Members training and support arrangements.

### **4. THE REPORT**

- 4.1 Members will recall receiving a report on Member Training and Support at its meeting on 26th February 2014. The report proposed improvements to members training and support arrangements by recommending the implementation of a new scheme made up of three categories namely, Mandatory Training, Recommended Training and Requested Training together with a suite of training courses under these headings. As part of the implementation of this scheme the report sought the views of the Standards Committee on proposed arrangements for reporting Members who fail to attend mandatory training and seeking agreement for a reporting protocol contained in that report.
- 4.2 The views of the Standards Committee together with those of the Council's Democratic Services Committee were presented to Full Council on 22nd April 2014, which, endorsed the following recommendations
- (i) the introduction of Mandatory Induction, Regulatory, Audit and Personnel Committee Training be approved;
  - (ii) the membership of Regulatory, Audit and Personnel Committees be dependent on attending Mandatory Training be approved;
  - (iii) the introduction of Mandatory Training be approved;

- (iv) Members commitment to participating in appropriate Recommended Training and completing a Training Needs Analysis undertaken every 2 years be approved;
- (v) those who refuse to attend Mandatory Training or who do not have good reasons for being unable to attend Mandatory Training be reported to the Standards Committee be approved;
- (vi) proposals be developed for appropriate training to be provided to Cabinet Members and Senior Officers to support the scrutiny function.

4.3 With regard to the training to support the scrutiny function in accordance with the recommendation (vi) above following the decision by Council on 27th January 2015, (see background paper) the current scrutiny arrangements are under review, consequently this additional training will be picked up as part of the review and an update will be provided for members of the Committee at a later date.

4.4 All of the remaining training requirements set out in paragraph 4.2 above have been incorporated in the attached Members Training Programme which is to be implemented for the year 2015. Members will note the Schedule includes Mandatory training, recommended training for Cabinet members, Chair and Vice Chairs and Senior Salary holders. In addition combined six monthly refresher training, annual refresher training and six monthly update sessions for recommended committee training dates have been set.

4.5 As the Training Programme has only recently been implemented it is too early to provide members with an update on attendance, although this is being monitored and will be reported to members at a later date. In addition officers are considering alternative ways of delivering training to members for example, the possibility of providing training via a recorded webcast.

4.6 Members of the Standards Committee are asked to note the information contained in this report and the attached Training Programme.

## **5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are none. This is for information only.

## **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 There are none. This is for information only.

## **7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 There are none. This is for information only.

## **8. CONSULTATIONS**

8.1 None. This report has been prepared for information only.

## **9. RECOMMENDATIONS**

9.1 Members are asked to note the content of this report.

## **10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

10.1 To update members on the introduction of the Members Training Programme for 2015.

## **11. STATUTORY POWER**

11.1 The Local Government Act 2000.

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### Background Papers:

Report to Standards Committee – Members Training and Support 26th February 2014

Report to Council 27th January 2015 – Wales Audit Office Report- Follow up of Special Inspection and Reports in the Public Interest

### Appendices:

Appendix 1 Members Training Programme for 2015