

REPORT TO	ON
COUNCIL	24 July 2019



TITLE	REPORT OF
Creation of Member Development Steering Group	Assistant Director of Scrutiny & Democratic Services

Is this report confidential?	No
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PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. This report proposes the creation of a cross-party Member Development Steering Group to champion the development of Members and help the Council retain the North West Charter for Elected Member Development.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That Council agrees the creation of a Member Development Steering Group with the composition, terms of reference and approach as outlined in the report.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

3. The report relates to the following corporate priorities:

Excellence and Financial Sustainability	✓
Health and Wellbeing	✓
Place	✓

Projects relating to People in the Corporate Plan:

People	✓
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BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT

4. The Council's Corporate Plan includes a project to bring forward a comprehensive Member Development programme, aligning with the first level of the North West Employers' Organisation Member Development Charter.
5. Following the delivery of the comprehensive Member induction programme after May's elections which received positive feedback from Members, the next stage is to develop a Member Development programme for the remainder of the year and forward planning over the next four years. For any Member Development programme to be successful it is important that it is Member led, inclusive and is tailored to the needs of the Council and individual Members.
6. The Council has held the North West Charter for Elected Member Development for many years and as we start a new council term appropriate to review our approach against this standard and engage with the supporting organisation, North West Employers' Association.
7. This report recommends the creation of a cross-party Member Development Steering Group to work with all Members to develop a comprehensive Member Development programme and work to retain the North West Charter for Elected Member Development.

PROPOSALS (e.g. RATIONALE, DETAIL, FINANCIAL, PROCUREMENT)

8. It is proposed that a cross-party Member Development Steering Group be created with the following terms of reference:
 - ▶ To champion and raise the profile of Member development in helping the Council to achieve its vision, values and priorities.
 - ▶ To identify appropriate training and development opportunities for all Members and to promote and support development in the groups.
 - ▶ To develop an inclusive Member Development Strategy and programme, including monitoring its implementation.
 - ▶ To identify what needs to be done to retain the North West Charter for Elected Member Development.
 - ▶ To consider and recommend learning opportunities for Members.
 - ▶ To evaluate learning programmes and identify the benefits for Members.
 - ▶ To discuss and champion training and development at group meetings.
 - ▶ To report back to Full Council.

9. The cross-party Member Steering Group will be made up of 2 Labour Members, 2 Conservative Members, 1 Liberal Democrat Member, with nominations put forward by Group Leaders.
10. Additionally the Chair of the Member Development Steering Group will be the Leader of the Council as member development falls within his portfolio.
11. The Member Development Steering Group will report back to each Full Council meeting.

CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT AND OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION

12. The Group Leaders have been consulted on this proposal.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

13. None as a result of this report. The Council already has in place a budget for Member development.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

14. None as a result of this report.

AIR QUALITY IMPLICATIONS

15. None as a result of this report.

COMMENTS OF THE STATUTORY FINANCE OFFICER

16. The Statutory Finance Officer has no further comments.

COMMENTS OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

17. There are no issues or concerns arising from this report from a Monitoring Officer perspective. The importance of ensuring that our members have appropriate training and development opportunities is self-evident.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

<p>▶ HR & Organisational Development</p>	Included within the report.
<p>▶ ICT / Technology</p>	None as a result of this report.

▶ Property & Asset Management	None as a result of this report.
▶ Risk	There are risks to the delivery of the Council's corporate priorities and plan if Members are not provided with the necessary training and development opportunities. Developing a Member Development Strategy will help to mitigate these risks.
▶ Equality & Diversity	None as a result of this report.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

North West Employers' Organisation – North West Charter for Elected Member Development Guidance Notes (weblink: <https://nwemployers.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/North-West-Charter-Guidance-Notes.pdf><https://nwemployers.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/North-West-Charter-Guidance-Notes.pdf>)

APPENDICES

There are no appendices.

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