

## **Member Development Steering Group**

### **Summary**

1. This report informs members of the formation of a Member Development Steering Group, with a reporting line to the Standards Committee, and gives details of the Group's work to date.

### **Background**

2. The Member Development Steering Group and the associated terms of reference were established at the meeting of Full Council on 2 April 2009. This was the first step in the Council's progress towards achieving I&DeA Charter Status in Member Development and improving its approach to the provision of development opportunities for elected Members.

### **Reporting arrangements and terms of reference**

3. The Member Development Steering Group will report three times a year to the Standards Committee in view of its ethical and standards role relating to Members. This will enable Standards Committee to feed any recommendations into Council in relation, for instance, to development funding for Members or Member engagement in events/activities.
4. At its meeting on 2 April 2009, Council agreed the terms of reference set out in Annex A to this report. These serve to guide the Steering Group in its purpose and aims with regard to Member Development and working towards achieving Charter Status.

### **Work to Date**

5. Since its formation at Council in April, the Steering Group has met twice. The minutes of these meetings are available view on the Council's website at <http://democracy.york.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.asp?CId=680&Year=2009>

Decisions taken to date by the Group can be summarised as follows:

- Agreement of an Annual Work Plan for the Steering Group, which sets out key actions in the Member Development annual cycle and

the necessary steps towards achieving Charter Status. The Annual Work Plan is attached as Annex B to this report.

- Agreement of the forthcoming programme of Development Opportunities for Members (Member Development Plan)
- Endorsement of an event during local democracy week aimed at encouraging members of the public to consider becoming a councillor (**'a councillor who me?'**). It should be noted that this is not to be funded from the Member development budget.
- The appointment of Mike Leitch as external consultant to provide Personal Development Reviews for members during September and October 2009.

## **Consultation**

6. Not relevant for the purposes of this report.

## **Options**

7. Not relevant for the purposes of this report, which is for information only.

## **Corporate Priorities**

8. The establishment of a Member Development Steering Group reporting to the Standards Committee is consistent with the priority actions included in the Council's refreshed Corporate Strategy; in particular, the provision of strong leadership, supporting and developing people and encouraging improvement in everything we do.

## **Implications**

9. There are no known implications in relation to the following in terms of dealing with the specific matter before Members, namely to note the information within this report.
  - Financial
  - Human Resources (HR)
  - Equalities
  - Legal
  - Crime & Disorder
  - Property
  - Other

## **Risk Management**

10. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy, there are no risks associated with the contents of this report.

## **Recommendation**

11. Members are asked to note the contents of the report

## **Reason**

12. In accordance with the reporting arrangements agreed by Council for the Member Development Steering Group

## **Contact Details**

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**Report Approved**

**Date** 18 August 2009

## **Specialist Implications Officer(s)**

None

**Wards Affected:**

**All**

**For further information please contact the author of the report**

## **Background Papers:**

None.

## **Annexes:**

Annex A – Member Development Steering Group Terms of Reference  
Annex B - Annual Work Plan (2009/2010)