Member Development Steering Group   **26ᵗʰ January 2012**

Report of the Assistant Director Governance & ICT

The Spring Community Events Programme (additions to the Member Development Core Training Programme)

Summary

1. This report sets out proposals for the Spring Community Events Programme which will be offered to Members in April and May 2012.

Background

2. During the municipal year 2011/2012 a comprehensive Induction and Development Training Programme (the Core Programme) has been put together for Members of the Council. The first part ran from May to July 2011 and predominantly acted as the Induction Programme for new Members and a refresher for more experienced Members of the Council. The second part of the Core Programme runs from September 2011 to May 2012 (although effectively ends at end of March 2012) and includes a very broad range of sessions aimed at all Councillors.

3. The aim of the third part of the Core Programme, which is being presented at today's meeting, is to run a series of events/training sessions out in the community. This part of the Core Programme will run during April and May 2012 and will focus on developing an understanding of local communities and key partnership activity.

Consultation

4. When putting together the first and second parts of the Core Programme senior officers at the Council were asked for their thoughts and ideas as to what should be included. Quite a few of the ideas put forward had a 'community theme' and these have influenced how the final part of the Core Programme has been put together.

5. In addition to this MDSG also raised several ideas for community events/training sessions at a previous meeting.

    What Will Be On Offer in April & May 2012

6. The following sessions will be on offer throughout April & May 2012:

    - Understanding Parish Councils
    - Tours of Community Centres
    - Developing Ward Plans & Partnership Working
    - Tour of Council Community Assets (including office accommodation)

7. Further provisional details of all sessions above are set out in Annex A to this report

    Options

8. Members are invited to comment on the proposals for the Spring Community events programme before the events are finalised and advertised to all Members of the Council.

    Analysis

9. Members are asked to comment on the provisional spring programme prior to this being advertised to all Council Members. As part of its drive to become a 'confident, collaborative organisation' the Council Plan specifically states, that we should ensure the Member Development and Training Programme has a focus on community leadership.

    Council Plan 2011 - 2015

10. The third part of the Core Member Training & Development Programme is focussed around Community Leadership, as set out in the Council Plan 2011-2015 and as mentioned above.

    Implications

11. **Financial** – the annual training programme for Members is supported by the Member Development budget and any costs accrued are met from within this budget.

12. There are no known HR, legal or other implications associated with the contents of this report.

Risk Management

13. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy there are no known risks associated with the recommendations set out in this report, other than failing to deliver on the commitment set out in the Council Plan 2011-15.

Recommendations

14. Members are asked to comment on the proposals for the Spring Community Events Programme.

    Reason: In order to deliver the commitment set out in the Council Plan 2011-2015

Contact Details

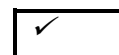| Author:	Chief Officer Responsible for the report:
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Report Approved ✓ **Date** 19.01.2012

Specialist Implications Officer(s) None

Wards Affected: All ✓

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:
None
Annexes

Annex A Summary of sessions that will take place as part of the Spring Community Programme