

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting17th November 2022

1. Title of Item/Report

Member Learning & Development Strategy 2023 – 2027 & Induction Programme for Elected Members 2023

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report on the Member Learning & Development Strategy 2023 – 2027 & Induction Programme for Elected Members 2023.

The Member Learning and Development Strategy outlined the Council's commitment to ensuring members understand their role and how they will be fully equipped with the skills required to carry it out to the highest standard throughout their term of office. In preparation for each local election, the strategy was reviewed taking into consideration best practice across the country and the principals of Charter Status for Elected Member Development.

Officers had subsequently consulted with both the LGA and local authorities within the north-east and it was pleasing to report that the strategy and Member Development programme was considered best practice by the LGA, who continued to signpost other Authorities to this.

An integral part of the strategy was the Induction Programme, which was an important opportunity to provide Councillors with essential information to introduce them to their new role. It enabled Councillors to quickly become familiar with how the Council works, the 'rules' under which a Council operated and the complexities of their role. The Induction Programme also provided an opportunity to set a positive tone, establish clear roles and responsibilities and to build positive working relationships from the outset.

The proposed Member Learning & Development Strategy for 2023-2027 was attached to the report and reflected the Council's ongoing commitment to learning and development. The aims of the Strategy were detailed within the report.

In accordance with previous years, all confirmed electoral candidates

would receive a copy of the approved Member Induction programme when their candidacy was declared. This ensured that candidates were aware of the support they would receive upon election and an indication of the diary commitment required for the first few months after election.

On the day of the Count, all Members elected would receive an induction pack containing all necessary documentation to complete as well as key administrative documents including.

A copy of the proposed 2023 Member Induction Programme was attached to the report.

RESOLVED that the Council's Member Learning & Development Strategy 2023-27 and the Induction Programme for Elected Members be approved.

3. Reasons for the Decision

To have an appropriate refreshed Member Learning & Development Strategy in place for implementation post elections.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None.

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None.

6. Details of any Dispensations

N/A

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Midnight Friday 25 November 2022

Proper Officer
21 November 2022