

Meeting:	STANDARDS COMMITTEE
Date:	9 June 2009
Subject:	Member Development – Future Operating Arrangements
Responsible Officer:	Hugh Peart
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor David Ashton
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	Appendix A – Agenda Layout Appendix B – Member Development Policy

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report proposes a change in the operating arrangements for the Member Development Panel to recognise the Council's stated commitment to gain a Member Development Charter and to continue to seek to enhance the opportunities available to Members.

Recommendation: That

- (1) The Council's ambition to gain a Member Development Charter be welcomed and endorsed.
- (2) the Member Development Panel be redesignated a Cabinet Advisory Panel, reporting to the Leader of the Council (Councillor David Ashton) as part of his portfolio for Strategy, Partnership and Finance.
- (3) Subject to the agreement of Cabinet at (4) below the Committee agree to nominate an Independent Member to serve as co-optee to the Panel;
- (4) Cabinet be requested to establish the Panel as an Advisory Panel with the addition to its membership of a co-opted Independent Member of Standards Committee.

(5) the Terms of Reference and membership of the Panel be agreed at Cabinet as part of the future operating arrangements.

Section 2 – Report

1. Background

- 1.1 The Member Development Panel has always been a sub-committee of the Standards Committee, given its responsibility for training in terms of Member Protocols, Codes of Conduct and statutory functions. However, the increasing focus of the Panel has been around individual Member Development and ensuring that training events are targeted to enable Members to continue to develop and enhance the discharge of their role.
- 1.2 The Council, on 7th May 2009, agreed a commitment to seek a Member Development Charter and will shortly be inspected in this regard (copy attached). Member Development as an individual function sits within the Portfolio of the current Leader of the Council, who is necessarily responsible for spending and continuing development in this area. A copy of the recently agreed Policy is attached for information at Appendix B.
- 1.3 Individual Member Development is complimented by the ongoing mandatory training that is undertaken under the auspices of the Standards Committee and it would seem opportune if the two areas worked together more closely in terms of achieving a more integrated overall training programme for Members.

2. Future Operation

- 2.1 It is therefore proposed that the Member Development Panel should be redesignated a Cabinet Advisory Panel, within the Portfolio of the Leader (Councillor David Ashton) which will expedite the process for arranging high quality Member training activities in line with the Council's ambitions.
- 2.2 The agenda for the Member Development Panel would be divided to deal separately with specific individual Member Development and matters relating to Codes of Conduct / Protocols (see attached proposed example). This will ensure the differing roles the Panel fulfils are fully reflected in terms of onward approvals and reporting.
- 2.3 To retain the link and importance of the various protocols / Codes of Conduct and mandatory training areas for which the Council, through the Standards Committee, is responsible, it is proposed that one of the independent members of Standards Committee should sit as a co-opted Member on the Panel.
- 2.4 The terms of reference to be recommended to the Cabinet are proposed to remain unchanged.

3. Legal Implications

- 3.1 These are contained in the body of the report.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 Any costs relating to this matter will be met from within the provision for Member Development Programme Budget

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Sheela Thakrar	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	On behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date: 29.5.09		
Name: Jessica Farmer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	On behalf of the Monitoring Officer
Date: 27.5.09		

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Pauline Ferris, Senior Professional Democratic Services,
tel: 020 8424 1269, e-mail: pauline.ferris@harrow.gov.uk

Background Papers

None



MEMBER DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY PANEL

?????DAY ? ???? 2009
7.30 PM

PANEL AGENDA (CABINET)

COMMITTEE ROOM
HARROW CIVIC CENTRE

MEMBERSHIP (Quorum 3)

Chair: Councillor Jean Lammiman

Councillors:

Paul Osborn

**B E Gate
Phillip O'Dell**

Co-optee (Independent Member of Standards Committee: ??????????)

Reserve Members:

1. Mrs Myra Michael
2. Mrs Vina Mithani

1. Keeki Thammaiah
2. David Perry

**Issued by the Democratic Services Section,
Legal and Governance Services Department**

HARROW COUNCIL

MEMBER DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY PANEL

AGENDA - PART I

1. **Attendance by Reserve Members:**

To note the attendance at this meeting of any duly appointed Reserve Members.

Reserve Members may attend meetings:-

- (i) to take the place of an ordinary Member for whom they are a reserve;
- (ii) where the ordinary Member will be absent for the whole of the meeting; and
- (iii) the meeting notes at the start of the meeting at the item 'Reserves' that the Reserve Member is or will be attending as a reserve;
- (iv) if a Reserve Member whose intention to attend has been noted arrives after the commencement of the meeting, then that Reserve Member can only act as a Member from the start of the next item of business on the agenda after his/her arrival.

2. **Declarations of Interest:**

To receive declarations of personal or prejudicial interests, arising from business to be transacted at this meeting, from:

- (a) all Members of the Panel;
- (b) all other Members present.

3. **Minutes:** (Pages)

That the minutes of the meeting held on ?? be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

4. **Public Questions:**

To receive questions (if any) from local residents or organisations under the provisions of Committee Procedure Rule 19 (Part 4B of the Constitution).

5. **Petitions:**

To receive petitions (if any) submitted by members of the public/Councillors under the provisions of Committee Procedure Rule 16 (Part 4B of the Constitution).

6. **Deputations:**

To receive deputations (if any) under the provisions of Committee Procedure Rule 17 (Part 4B of the Constitution).

MEMBER DEVELOPMENT (CABINET)

7. **Member Development Programme Update:** (Pages)
8. **Individual Training Packages??:** (Pages)

CODES & PROTOCOLS (STANDARDS)

9. **Planning Code of Conduct:** (Pages)
10. **Protocol - ???????????:** (Pages)

AGENDA - PART II - NIL