
REPORT TO: STANDARDS COMMITTEE

AGENDA ITEM: 10

DATE OF MEETING: 2ND SEPTEMBER 2004

CATEGORY: DELEGATED

REPORT FROM: MONITORING OFFICER

OPEN PARAGRAPH NO: N/A

MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT: ANDREA McCASKIE (EXT. 5831)

DOC:

SUBJECT: TRAINING

REF:

WARD(S) AFFECTED: ALL

1.0 Reason for Exempt

1.1 Not applicable.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 That details of the training provided to District Councillors and Parish Councils since the last Meeting be noted.

3.0 Purpose of Report

3.1 To receive details of the training provided to District Councillors and Parish Councils since the last Meeting.

4.0 Detail

4.1 Following the report to the last Meeting on the training session for parish councils on the new ethical framework on 14th July 2003, further sessions on ethics and probity have been held in association with the Derbyshire Association of Local Councils (DALC) on 17th November 2003 and 20th July 2004. A copy of the presentation slides is attached at Annexe 'A' for information.

4.2 All Members of the District Council have been provided with the opportunity to attend various courses and seminars organised by the East Midlands Regional Local Government Association under the Modern Members Development Programme. Several Members have taken the opportunity to attend courses on topics such as Scrutiny and Overview, Local Government Finance, Community Involvement and Advanced Performance Management and Challenge Techniques for Elected Members.

4.3 Since the last Meeting, various training sessions and seminars have been held for District Councillors, as follows:-

- 2nd & 4th December 2003 – Awareness training on the Codes of Conduct for Members and Employees and the Member/Employee Protocol.
- 10th March 2004 – Liquor licensing (this function is shortly to be transferred to the responsibility of the local authority).
- 6th & 7th April & 29th June 2004 – Equalities and Diversity.
- 21st April 2004 – Local Government Finance.
- 18th & 19th May 2004 – Council policies.
- 7th June 2004 – Planning Update (by the Planning Co-operative).
- 16th June 2004 – Implementing Electronic Government.

4.4 During December 2003, a meeting was held with a nominated Member from each of the two political groups together with the Council's Training and Development Officer to discuss Members' training needs. This indicated that overall, Members felt that training and development was addressed well and that they were content with the level of training and support.

5.0 Financial Implications

5.1 The costs of Members' training are covered in the Council's budget.

6.0 Corporate Implications

6.1 Article 8.02 of the Council's Constitution provides that a role of the Standards Committee is to advise and to provide or arrange for training for Councillors and Co-opted Members on matters relating to the Members' Code of Conduct. This also relates to parish councils and their members.

7.0 Community Implications

7.1 None

8.0 Background Papers

8.1 None.