

## CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

**Report to:** Democratic Services Committee

**Date:** 9 June 2023

**Title:** Report in relation to the Member Development Strategy

**Purpose of report:** To consider the Member Development Strategy

### Introduction

The Welsh Government Statutory and Non-Statutory Guidance for Principal Councils in Wales sets out the requirements in relation to elected members' support, training and development in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000, the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 and the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

The guidance stipulates:

*Councils could put together a member development strategy, which should reflect the need to keep councillors' skills refreshed and updated. This should incorporate the opportunity for organising briefings for councillors on emerging areas of law and policy.*

The 'Member Development Strategy' has been developed to reflect the above mentioned guidance.

Part 2, Section 2.0 includes a list of subjects for an-going training programme of member development identified by the Welsh Government Guidance, noting that this is not an exhaustive list. A comparator of the WG recommended training against that of the training currently provided by Ceredigion County Council has identified the following items for inclusion in the induction programme:

- *Training on specific roles members may undertake such as governors or representatives on health boards, fire and rescue authorities or national parks including a short brief on the purpose of the role and the member's responsibilities in keeping the council apprised of developments on the body they are representing the council on, the level of decision making that is delegated to them and how they may access assistance to support them in the role;*
- *Training on the role of the councillor as a local member, the delegation of functions to ward members and councillor calls for action;*

**Recommendations:**

- a) To approve the addition of the 2 additional items to the induction programme
- b) To recommend that Council approve the Member Development Strategy

**Appendices:** Appendix A: Ceredigion County Council Member Development Strategy

**Background documents:** The Local Government Act 2000  
The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011  
The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021  
Statutory and Non Statutory Guidance for Principal Councils in Wales – supporting provisions within the Local Government Act 2000, the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 and the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021

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