

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

COUNCIL: 26TH JULY, 2021

REFERENCE FROM CABINET: 19TH JULY, 2021

“C645 REVIEW OF THE MEMBER DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (REF) – (Urgent by need to ensure that all training can be confirmed with providers prior to September 2021 and over the recess prior to the Local Government elections in May 2022)”

The urgent reference from the Democratic Services Committee of 12th July, 2021 was presented to Cabinet.

The Leader said that Democratic Services Committee had looked at issues concerning Members’ training and had requested a refresh of the Elected Member Development Strategy.

Councillor McCaffer said she wanted more people to be encouraged to take part in Local Government. It was important for people to know and understand Council processes and this was a step to support all Elected Members to be able to fully participate in Council, whomever they were elected to represent.

The Leader also referred to the ‘Diversity in Democracy’ report that had been considered earlier on the agenda.

Councillor Gray said that long-standing Members would be able to share their expertise with newer Members but could also benefit from new and shared experience from other industries.

Councillor Williams referred to the considerable amount of training available for prospective candidates and Members which could be programmed for completion over time.

The Leader commented that Members needed to keep their training up to date in order to keep up with new legislative requirements. The Leader in referring to the need to ensure that arrangements could be put in place over the summer period for training advised he would be recommending the use of the urgency decision procedure.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein

RESOLVED –

- (1) T H A T the topics contained within the table attached at Appendix B to the report with an amendment that Rules of Debate training be included as mandatory training be endorsed.
- (2) T H A T that the development of a personal safety policy specifically for Elected Members be presented to the Committee and Cabinet for consideration / adoption in due course.
- (3) T H A T the inclusion of the WLGA Competency Framework (Appendix C to the report) and the revised model role descriptions for Members set out in Appendix D to the report, as part of the refresh of the Council's Member Development Strategy be endorsed.
- (4) T H A T the refreshed Member Development Strategy subject to Resolutions 1, 2 and 3 above be approved.
- (5) T H A T the use of the Urgent Decision Procedure as set out in Section 14:14 of the Council's Constitution be approved to allow work progress over the summer period.**

Reasons for decisions

- (1-4) Having regard to the contents of the report and the discussion at the meeting.
- (5) The reporting of the use of the Urgent Decision Procedure is a requirement of the Council's Constitution."**