

Member Development Expo Working Group – Member Comments & Suggestions.

Monday 24th October, 2018

6pm, Corporate Suite.

1. “There are three levels to the Member’s role: 1) Understanding, 2) Practicalities, 3) Motivation.”
2. “The more that Officers engage with Members, the more comfortable Members will be to input and engage.”
3. “The WLGA Competency Framework for Members should be distributed at Induction Stage rather than Candidate Stage.”
4. “The General Public have a very poor understanding of what the Council actually does/can do for them.”
5. “The fundamental aim of every Councillor is to support the constituents in their ward but, Local Government has developed over the years into a big business which means that Councillors have to step back from politics to a degree.”
6. “A Member’s decision is not always based on Politics (we are not Westminster), it’s about a duty of care to the community.”
7. “When I was elected, I only knew what I needed to know because of talking with the ‘returning’ Members in my political party. However, we may see an increase in Independent Members so how would they receive support?”
8. “A Rules of Debate training session is required at the very beginning of the term – and now!”
9. “There are advocates of the Council’s work on Social Media that are over looked by the negative comments. How do we bring these to the forefront?”

Suggestions:

1. An Orientation of Council Offices to meet ‘on the ground’ service Officers, as well as the Directors.
2. Review Members’ Competency Skills around ICT, using their phones and laptops, every six months.
3. Training around basic computer skills/software navigation for Members.
4. A Beginners (Crib Sheet) Guide for Members that states the obvious as well as the not so obvious and everything in between.