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DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 30 July 2019

PRESENT: Councillor S.A. Curry (Chair)

Councillors:

W.T. Evans, D. Jones and D. Thomas

Also in attendance:

Councillor L.M. Stephens – Member Development Lead for the Executive Board

The following Officers were in attendance:

L.R. Jones, Head of Administration and Law
D. Richards, Organisational Development Manager
H. Daniels, Learning & Development Advisor
E. Bryer, Democratic Services Officer

Chamber, County Hall, Carmarthen, SA31 1JP - 10.00 am - 10.25 am

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor J. Jones.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTERESTS.

There were no declarations of personal interest.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 12TH MARCH, 2019.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on the 12th March, 2019 be signed as a correct record.

4. MEMBER DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2019/20.

The Committee considered a report detailing the proposed Member Development Plan for 2019/20 and revised approach for identifying future learning and development needs.

The proposal offered a new approach to member development based on research with local government and consultation with Councillors. It aimed to maximise engagement for establishing learning and development requirements relevant for the 21st Century public service. The report also identified emerging roles and offered a model through which Councillor careers and development could be explored.

A question was asked regarding the format and duration of the workshops scheduled in September. The Organisational Development Manager advised that engagement would be critical and they were willing to be guided by members on how these should be delivered. The outcomes of the workshops would be key. One-to-one discussions would also be organised with Members.

It was asked if consideration had been given to learning outcomes contributing to university credits. The Organisational Development Manager advised that Professional Learning Programme frameworks could be explored. He also iterated the importance of member training records being kept up to date.

It was stated that the Councillor role was ever changing and that there was an increase in dealing with people with mental health issues. The Learning & Development Advisor advised that whilst coaching training was offered, People Management would like to further explore this type of training.

It was stated that whilst the “key roles for the future” looked interesting, some were unintelligible. The Organisational Development Manager advised that this was a flexible model that would be adapted for Carmarthenshire and its Members. The model had already stimulated a debate on what it meant for members in Carmarthenshire.

The Committee noted that on-line training and e-learning would play an important role in meeting the evolving requirements of members and their different lifestyles.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to:

- 4.1 endorse the proposal for Member engagement on the 21st Century Councillor model, establishing a new approach to the formulation and delivery of the member Development Programme.**
- 4.2 agree the timeline for the formulation of a detailed Members Development Programme.**

CHAIR

DATE