

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Member Development Policy</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>23 September 2008</b>		
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Director of Strategy &amp; Governance</b>		
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b><i>Caroline Banfield</i></b>	<b>Tel:</b> 29-1126
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<b>Wards Affected:</b>	All		

### FOR GENERAL RELEASE

#### 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This Policy sets out the council's underlying principles and values relating to Member development. It emphasises our commitment to equality of opportunity and sets out the roles and responsibilities of members and officers in this area. Its adoption is consistent with the corporate priority of supporting an effective city leadership.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Committee agrees the Member Development Policy.

#### 3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/ KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 At its meeting on 13 August 2008, the Member Development Working Group recommended that the Policy be adopted.
- 3.2 In November 2007 Policy & Resources Committee approved a Member Development strategy, which set out what member development at this council aims to achieve and how it supports council priorities. This policy, together with the Member Development Plan that is published each year, details how the objectives in the strategy will be met.
- 3.3 The values contained in the Policy have already been articulated to all members via the Strategy, Development Plan, Members' Handbook and newsletters produced by the Member Development Working Group. The policy has been created with the intention of drawing together those statements of principle into one easily accessible document.

#### 4. **CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 The Member development working group has cross-party representation and its representatives consult their political group colleagues on a regular basis. There has been no public consultation about this report.

#### 5. **FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

##### Financial Implications:

The Democratic Services division of Strategy & Governance has a budget of £1.787million in 2008/09. Within this is an allocation towards Member development of £21000. Whilst the agreement of the Member Development policy in itself has no financial implications, any training costs associated with the implementation of the policy would have to be met from this £21000 allocation. It is anticipated that these costs will be accommodated within budget, through prioritisation of activities.

Finance officer consulted: Peter Francis 18 August 2008

##### Legal Implications:

- 5.2 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Lawyer consulted: Abraham Ghebre-Ghiorghis 10 August 2008

##### Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 The Policy (and the Charter Mark award which it supports) will help ensure Members have equality of opportunity in accessing training and development.

##### Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 There are no sustainability implications arising from this report

##### Crime and Disorder implications:

- 5.5 There are no crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

##### Risk and Opportunity Management implications:

- 5.6 The way in which the council and individual members address member development presents both risks and opportunities. The council's approved Risk & Opportunity Management methodology will be used by the Member Development Working Group to further explore and monitor these to ensure the continuing effective delivery of the Member Development Policy.

##### Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 There are no corporate or citywide implications arising from this report.

### **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

#### **Appendices:**

(1) Member Development Policy

**Background Documents**

(1) Member Development Strategy – available on request from Democratic Services

