

REPORT TO:	ETHICS COMMITTEE 12 February 2020
SUBJECT:	MEMBER LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT 2019-20 UPDATE
LEAD OFFICER:	JACQUELINE HARRIS BAKER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES & MONITORING OFFICER
WARDS:	ALL
CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT/AMBITIOUS FOR CROYDON: The Council has determined that the Ethics Committee shall be responsible for receiving reports from the Monitoring Officer on matters of probity and ethics for consideration.	
FINANCIAL IMPACT: There are no additional financial implications arising from the contents of this report.	

RECOMMENDATION: The Committee is asked to note the content of the report.

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides the Committee with a log of Member Learning and Development activity in the 2019-20 Municipal Year. This activity is led and monitored by the Member Learning and Development Panel.
- 1.2 The role of the Members' Learning and Development Panel is to co-ordinate a training and development programme for Members.

2. MEMBER LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY 2019-20

- 2.1 The Council has a £21,000 annual budget for Member training and conferences. This is managed through the cross party Member Learning and Development Panel.
- 2.2 In February 2019 the Panel conducted a survey of Members to gain an understanding of their training needs. The results of this survey have been used as a basis for the training commission in 2019-20.
- 2.3 Separately following feedback from Members a new induction programme for Councillors elected a by-election has been introduced. In addition to any specific training requirements, such as planning committee training, the new programme also includes six 1-2-1 sessions on a range of areas including a Constitutional Overview, Equalities, Local Government Finance, Planning Referrals, Scrutiny Functions and Ward Budgets.
- 2.4 Activity in the 2019-20 Municipal Year has been as follows:

Internal Training Events

Event	Date	Attendance
Community Empowerment & Devolution	15 May 2019	12
Planning Training	28 May 2019	5
Licensing Training	5 June 2019	14
Health Scrutiny Briefing	17 June 2019	11
Prevent Training	2 Sept 2019	11

- 1.1 As well as the training already provided, further sessions to be delivered internally covering Lone Working, Information Security and the Use of Social Media are to be scheduled. Arrangements are being made with the Local Government Association to provide Public Speaking training and the Centre for Public Scrutiny to deliver Questioning Skills training.
- 1.2 Separately, given the level of knowledge required, specialist training has been provided for the members of the Pension Committee.
- 1.3 A number of Members have also used the available training budget to attend external training courses and events. The courses attended in 2019-20 are as follows:-

External Training

Event	Date	Attendance
Local Community Regeneration	22 May 2019	Individual
Westminster Media Forum Keynote Seminar	30/04/2019	Individual
LGA Leadership Academy	Various	2
Introduction to Scrutiny	5 June 2019	Individual
Effective Scrutiny	22 January 2020	Individual
Government Scrutiny Guidance Symposium	20 June 2019	3
Expert Chairing Skills for Scrutiny	11 June 2019	Individual
National Health Scrutiny Conference	18 July 2019	Individual
Leadership Essentials: Homelessness	5 December 2019	2
BAME Weekender	22 February 2020	Individual
Working with Media Masterclass	11 September 2019	Individual
Women Councillors Weekender	11 January 2020	Individual
Tackling Domestic Abuse & Violence	11 February 2020	Individual
Transforming Technology Services in Local Government	7 March 2020	Individual

2. MEMBER LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT 2020/21

- 2.1 The Members' Learning and Development Panel will be undertaking another Training Needs Analysis survey in February/March to inform the training programme for 2020-21.
- 2.2 The Governance Review Panel is also due to make its recommendations to Council in March 2020. Arising from this, there may be Members' learning and development requirements that will need to be incorporated in the training programme for 2020-21. The review may also provide an opportunity to consider broader skills training for members arising from the work of the Governance Panel.
- 2.3 In 2019 the Panel have been introduced to the Croydon Learning web portal and are in the process of trialling accessing the site with a view to it being rolled out to other Members in 2020-21.
- 2.4 The Panel will also be asking Members attending external training to complete an assessment of the event to build up a greater understanding of the quality of the training provision for future attendance.

3. FINANCIAL AND RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 There are no direct financial or other implications arising from this report. Approved by Lisa Taylor, Director of Finance, Assurance and Risk.

CONTACT OFFICER: Simon Trevaskis, Senior Democratic Services & Governance Officer - Scrutiny.