

AGENDA ITEM: 9

WALES CHARTER FOR MEMBER DEVELOPMENT

REPORT OF THE COUNTY CLERK AND MONITORING OFFICER

Reason for this Report

1. To update the Committee on progress in achieving the Wales Charter for Member Support and Development.

Background

2. The Democratic Services Committee set up a Task and Finish Group to review Member Development. This was convened in October and has met four times to consider:
 - A Member Development Strategy
 - A Member Training and Development Programme
 - The Wales Charter for Member Support and Development (including role descriptions and Personal Development Reviews for Members)
 - An all Member Survey
3. The Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) has developed a national programme of support, the Wales Charter for Member Support and Development. This was developed in collaboration with Members representing each of the political groups and Member Support Officers from across Wales.
4. This Charter aims to provide a broad framework for local planning, self-assessment, action and review together with networking and comparison amongst authorities and the sharing of good and innovative practice.
5. The Democratic Services Committee considered a report at their December meeting and resolved that a further report be brought to a future meeting of the Committee setting out timescales to achieve the Charter.

Progress

6. On 19 December 2013, Full Council unanimously agreed the Committee's recommendations to apply for the Charter and to adopt the recommended Framework Member Role Descriptions and Person Specification. A statement of Intent was signed by the Leader of the Council on the 8 January 2014.
7. All of the specified steps and tasks required to achieve the Charter have now been completed and it is proposed that the County Clerk and Monitoring officer be authorised to complete the application to apply for Charter status.

Legal Implications

8. There are no legal implications arising directly from the contents of this report.

Financial Implications

9. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee authorises the County Clerk and Monitoring officer to complete, and submit, the application to apply for Charter status to the Welsh Local Government association.

Marie Rosenthal
County Clerk and Monitoring Officer
30 May 2014