
REPORT OF THE INTERIM HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

MEMBERS EXIT SURVEY 2017

Reason for this Report

1. To enable the Committee to consider the findings of the Member Exit Survey undertaken in February 2017 open to all Members who have held the Office of Councillor since May 2012 and agree an action plan.

Background

2. As part of the Council's support to Councillors the Chair of the Standards and Ethics Committee and former Chair of this Committee agreed that a Member Exit Survey be completed to enable lessons to be learnt about the experiences of Councillors whilst in office and their reasons for leaving or not standing for re-election.
3. The information will also help to make improvements in the support, training and advice available to members and enable the Council to make changes where necessary to assist Members in the future.
4. This Committee on 7 December 2016 considered the draft Member Exit Survey that had been endorsed by the Standards and Ethics Committee at its meeting 30 November 2016. The Committee approved the format and questions, and welcomed the opportunity for Members to add comments in the free text boxes.

Issues

5. The Member Exit Survey was available electronically and hard copy from 15 to 24 February 2017, and an opportunity was provided to those who wished support to complete the survey with one of the Committee and Members Services team.
6. In total 46 responses were received by the closing date from Members who had held the office of Councillor since May 2012.
7. This report deals with responses to Questions 1 – 13 as they fall within the remit of this Committee. The Standards and Ethics Committee will receive a report on 22 March 2017 on the responses to Questions 14 – 21; and questions 22 – 27 relate to monitoring information which supports the more detailed probing and analysis of the data.

8. The results of the questions that falls within the remit of this Committee is set out in Appendix A of the report with an analysis of the free text data in themes and potential actions for the Committee to consider.

Legal Implications

9. There are no other direct legal implications arising from the content of this report.

Financial Implications

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

Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to

- (1) note the data from the Member Exit Survey;
- (2) consider the potential actions and make any recommendations in relation to the Member Learning and Development opportunities and any other actions.

GEOFF SHIMELL
Acting Head of Democratic Services
7 March 2017

Background papers
Member Exit Survey 2017