

SOUTH HOLLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report of: Portfolio Holder for Governance and Customer and Executive Manager - Governance (Deputy Monitoring Officer)

To: Policy Development Panel - Tuesday, 24 April 2018
Council – 11 July 2018

(Author: Anthony Hodson-Curran Councillor Development Co-Ordinator)

Subject Councillor Development Strategy 2018-23

Purpose: To enable the Panel to consider the proposed approach to councillor training and development which has been developed for the Councillor Development Steering Group.

Recommendation(s):

- 1) That the Panel review the draft Strategy;
- 2) That the Panel consider the Strategy's alignment with the Corporate Plan and Transformation Programme;
- 3) That the Panel make recommendations for change as appropriate to the Chairman of the Steering Group for its consideration and action.

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Council's previous strategy has expired. A new one is needed to cover the final year of this electoral period and the new Council.
- 1.2 The current draft was considered and agreed for progress by the Councillor Development Steering Group on 27th February 2018.

2.0 OPTIONS

- 2.1 Do nothing: the strategy will not have a wider input and challenge
- 2.2 Consider and recommend changes to the draft document

3.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 3.1 The Council allocates a budget of £10,000 to Councillor Development. It is appropriate that this expenditure is directed strategically against Council priorities, supporting the role of elected members and the robustness of the Council.

3.2 The strategy gives a shape to the assessment of development needs: balancing those of the Council, especially in its governance and quasi-judicial functions with those of individual councillors.

3.3 The strategy seeks to align with the Corporate Plan and the Moving Forward Programme by emphasising the development of online learning methods

4.0 **EXPECTED BENEFITS**

4.1 The strategy provides a transparent document against which to test the commissioning and provision of training and development. It covers performance measures, which will be developed in detail by the Councillor Development Steering Group, so the economy, effectiveness and efficiency of programmes and events can be checked.

4.2 Should the Council decide to seek Charter for Member Development accreditation from the Local Government association again, a strategy is an essential underpinning document, demonstrating a planned and proactive approach.

5.0 **IMPLICATIONS**

In preparing this report, the report author has considered the likely implications of the decision - particularly in terms of Carbon Footprint / Environmental Issues; Constitutional & Legal; Contracts; Corporate Priorities; Crime & Disorder; Equality & Diversity/Human Rights; Financial; Health & Wellbeing; Reputation; Risk Management; Safeguarding; Staffing; Stakeholders/Consultation/Timescales; Transformation Programme; Other. Where the report author considers that there may be implications under one or more of these headings, these are identified below.

5.1 **Corporate Priorities**

5.1.1 The Strategy will align Councillor Development with the Corporate Plan.

5.2 **Transformation Programme**

5.2.1 The Strategy will align Councillor Development with the Transformation Programme.

Background papers:- None

Lead Contact Officer

Name and Post: Rhonda Booth – Democratic Services Manager
Telephone Number 01775 764705
Email: rbooth@sholland.gov.uk

Key Decision: N

Exempt Decision: N

This report refers to a Discretionary Service

Appendices attached to this report:

Appendix A Draft Councillor Development Strategy 2018-23