

**Blaby District Council
Council**

Date of Meeting	19 January 2021
Title of Report	Member Development Strategy 2021-2023 This is not a Key Decision and is not on the Forward Plan
Lead Members	Cllr. Terry Richardson - Leader of the Council Cllr. David Findlay – Chairman – Member Development Steering Group
Report Author	Senior Democratic Services Officer
Corporate Priority	All Priorities: A Place to Live; A Place to Work; A Place to Visit; People Strategy; Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)

1. What is this report about?

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the Member Development Strategy 2021-2023.

2. Recommendation(s) to Council

- 2.1 That the Member Development Strategy 2021-2023 be approved.

3. Reason for Decisions Recommended

- 3.1 It is important that the Council has a structured Member Development Strategy that strengthens the knowledge and skills that members need to fulfil their demanding roles; help contribute to the delivery of the Council's priorities and respond to the changing needs of the District.

4. Matters to consider

- 4.1 The Member Development Strategy sets out the Council's approach to developing Councillors during their term in office. All Councillors when they are newly elected or with many years of experience have a duty to their communities, the Council and themselves to ensure that they have the skills and knowledge to carry out their wide ranging and fast changing roles.

The strategy sets out a four year cycle of learning and development and ensures that opportunities are constantly evaluated and reviewed to ensure that they are appropriate and offer value for money.

In the last year, the Member Development Steering Group has considered a wide range of subjects, including:

- Evaluation of the induction programme
- The Council's E-learning package (Athena)
- Monitoring of the training budget
- Re-accreditation of the Member Development Charter
- Future learning and development programmes
- Member Development Strategy

The Member Development Strategy builds on the previous Strategy, it has a structured approach which comprises:

- A statement of principles in terms of equality of opportunity and access to Learning & Development
- Links to corporate priorities and objectives for the Strategy
- Clear definition of Members' responsibilities to participate in learning and development
- The council's commitment to provide support and resources to enable the strategy to be delivered.
- Regular monitoring and evaluation of the Learning & Development Programme to ensure they remain fit for purpose and provide value for money.

4.2 Proposal(s)

That the Member Development Strategy 2021-2023 is approved. .

4.3 Relevant Consultations

Senior Officers and Member Development Steering Group.

4.4 Significant Issues

There are no significant issues.

5. **What will it cost and are there opportunities for savings?**

- 5.1 There are no cost implications as a result of adopting this strategy. There is a training budget which the Member Development Steering Group will continue to monitor.

6. What are the risks and how can they be reduced?

6.1 There are no risks associated with this report.

7. Other options considered

7.1 No other options were considered.

8. Environmental impact

8.1 None

9. Other significant issues

9.1 In preparing this report, the author has considered issues related to Human Rights, Legal Matters, Human Resources, Equalities, Public Health Inequalities, and Climate Local and there are no areas of concern.

10. Appendix

10.1 Appendix A – The Member Development Strategy 2021-2023.

11. Background paper(s)

11.1 None

12. Report author's contact details

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