

**MEMBER DEVELOPMENT: EAST MIDLANDS COUNCILLOR  
DEVELOPMENT CHARTER & MEMBER DEVELOPMENT  
STRATEGY  
REPORT OF DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE (CORPORATE  
DIRECTION)**

**WARDS AFFECTED: ALL WARDS**

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1. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To raise awareness and seek approval of the Member Development Strategy and to gauge support for pursuing the Councillor Development Charter.

2. **RECOMMENDATION**

2.1 That Council determine whether it wishes to pursue the East Midlands Councillor Development Charter

2.2 The Member Development Strategy be approved.

3. **BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT**

3.1 In 2006 Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council signed up to the East Midlands Councillor Development Charter along with the other districts in Leicestershire. Work towards the Charter has continued since then and some valuable evidence has been gathered to use in support of our submission. Members have been supportive of aiming to achieve the Charter throughout this time.

3.2 The Member Development Steering Group has been monitoring progress towards achieving the Charter and whilst there are still some areas where improvement has been identified and actions highlighted, a resource-intensive area of work remains in putting together evidence and compiling several years' worth of work to use in support of our submission.

3.3 Due to the level of input required of Members during preparation and the assessment process it is important that awareness of Member Development activities is raised, cross-party support is obtained, and full commitment of Members to drive the assessment process is confirmed. The Member Development Steering Group has expressed its commitment to leading work towards achieving the Charter but requires support from all Members in order to be successful.

3.4 One of the requirements of the Councillor Development Charter is the adoption of a strategy for member development. Until 2010 member development in Leicestershire and Rutland was supported by the Leicestershire & Rutland Improvement Partnership (LRIP) Member Development Strategy. Following the end of the LRIP programme member development within the authority was included in the actions within the HBBC Workforce Strategy. The Member Development Steering Group has now developed a strategy specific to Members which essentially details how Members' development will be supported, from identifying development needs to providing and evaluating development opportunities.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS [AB]

The Authority will be required to pay a fee for the assessment. This will be funded from existing budgets. All the work for the assessment will be completed using existing resources.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS [LH]

None

6. CORPORATE PLAN IMPLICATIONS

This report supports all Corporate Aims in putting strategies in place to support Members in their roles within the community and within the authority across all aims and objectives.

7. CONSULTATION

The Member Development Steering Group has been consulted on the Strategy. Both the Steering Group and the Scrutiny Commission have received regular updates on Member Development activity since 2009.

8. RISK IMPLICATIONS

It is the Council's policy to proactively identify and manage significant risks which may prevent delivery of business objectives.

It is not possible to eliminate or manage all risks all of the time and risks will remain which have not been identified. However, it is the officer's opinion based on the information available, that the significant risks associated with this decision / project have been identified, assessed and that controls are in place to manage them effectively.

The following significant risks associated with this report / decisions were identified from this assessment:

Management of significant (Net Red) Risks		
Risk Description	Mitigating actions	Owner
Lack of awareness of and support for development opportunities	Seek cross-party support and raise awareness at all opportunities	Rebecca Owen

9. KNOWING YOUR COMMUNITY – EQUALITY AND RURAL IMPLICATIONS

This report does not impact on any particular community, group or parish. It aims to provide Members with the tools to identify and support all communities.

Where there is a proposed new service, change of service, or a new or reviewed policy, an Equality Impact Assessment is required and has been undertaken and can be viewed here: Non required.

10. CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

By submitting this report, the report author has taken the following into account:

- Community Safety implications
- Environmental implications
- ICT implications

- Asset Management implications
- Human Resources implications
- Planning Implications
- Voluntary Sector

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Background papers: Previous reports to the Member Development Steering Group and Scrutiny Commission

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