

Appendix 1



Member Development Bulletin

A grid of 12 circular icons in various colors (yellow, orange, red, purple, red, blue, dark blue, light blue, green, light green) surrounding the central text. The icons include: a star with motion lines, a heart with a pulse line, crossed wrench and pencil, scales of justice, a graduation cap, a bus and train, a house, a family under a roof, a robotic arm, and a ribbon award.

Your Elected Member Development Update





Happy New Year!

Happy New Year to you all from the Civic & Member Services team!

We would like to take the opportunity to thank you for the training sessions you attended in the past year and your much valued support for all that we do.

Hopefully you have all had a good break amongst the seasonal madness and are ready to go into 2020 refreshed and recharged, eager to complete the first phase of the Member Development Programme and keen to shape phase 2 going forward.

As always, the Member Development Programme is shaped by you, our members and for you. Your input and guidance meant that our first phase was very highly regarded by the LGA during our peer review last year and your ongoing feedback indicates you're pleased with how we're doing, and your continuing contribution and engagement is vital to build on our success so far.



Personal Safety Training

Tuesday 7 January 2020, 5pm - 7pm, Committee Room 2

Friday 10 January 2020, 11am - 1.00pm, Committee Room 1

In response to feedback and as part of the MDP, these training sessions relating to Personal Safety and Lone Working for Elected Members have been designed 'To raise awareness of personal safety issues in relation to aggression and violence. Explore how to anticipate, avoid and deal with incidents during the course of your duties'.

These sessions were very well received by members who attended the first two sessions in November. Feedback included:

“Very Good.”

“Very enjoyable and informative.”

“Brilliant.”

Appointments have been sent out, if you were not able to attend in November, please come along to one of these sessions.



Prevention Matters

Prevention matters

How elected members can improve the health of their communities

Tuesday 21 January 2020,

11am-5pm, Annexe 1

This is a one-day facilitated workshop for elected members to support their role as champions of health improvement and prevention in their local community.

Lisa McNally, Director Public Health will be in attendance along with other officers with expertise in public health.

This session will provide a great opportunity to hear about our public health work and consider how you can contribute as an elected member.

This is an extensive course that does run longer than most of our Member Development Programme sessions but is an important element of an elected member's role, so please make every effort to attend.

Appointments have been sent. Lunch will be provided.



**LOCAL ENERGY ADVICE
PARTNERSHIP**

LEAP Presentation

Thursday 23 January 2020, 11am-12noon or 5pm-6pm, Annexe 1

This presentation will introduce members to the LEAP scheme and ensure they are fully aware of the opportunities it provides.

LEAP is a free service that offers advice and guidance regarding energy, and income maximisation (benefits entitlement)

- To help Members point residents in the right direction if energy/income maximisation advice is something that they, the residents, could benefit from.
- Ensure Members understand basic eligibility rules
- To make Members aware of the referral procedure
- Update Members regarding progress and successes over the past 12 months
- Advise Members of other free energy-related services available via Agility Eco.

Appointments have now been sent out, the presentation will be approximately an hour, with time then for questions at the end.



ICT Survey

In the latter half of last year, all members were sent a short ICT survey designed to allow us to establish how members are accessing their council emails and using council systems, to ensure we are complying with best practice and relevant regulations around Data Protection. It will also allow us to build a picture of how you utilise technology in your role as councillors.

If you have not yet responded to the survey, please answer the questions below sending your replies to members_services@sandwell.gov.uk

1) What devices do you currently use to access your council email?

(Please list all the devices you use to do this)

2) What devices will you want to access your council emails on going forward?

(Please list all the devices you will want to use to do this)

3) Do you currently have a council laptop? If you do, how long have you had it?

(Please provide your asset ID)

Stir it up!

As part of our refresh of Overview & Scrutiny, we'll be hosting some regular drop-ins for members.

To support some new approaches and to help us explore ideas for future reviews, colleagues from Democratic Services & Civic and Member Services will be on hand for a chat in the Members' Meeting Room, The Big House on Monday 13 from 11am to 1pm and prior to Full Council, in the Members' Dining Room, on Tuesday 14 January, 4pm-6pm.

We're keen to create opportunities for more informal discussions and to get a better sense of members' knowledge & experience, topics of interest and development needs.

Hopefully we'll see you there, but if you can't make it please do get in touch at:

scrutiny_unit@sandwell.gov.uk

How are we doing?

If you have any comments or queries around this or any other training, or any feedback you wish to share,

please contact

member_development@sandwell.gov.uk



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