

## Appendix 3 – Scrutiny Recommendation Status Summary October 2022

Grant Thornton Recommendation for Scrutiny	Summary
<p><b>Key Recommendation 7:</b> Members in key statutory roles, in particular in relation to Cabinet, scrutiny, standards and audit, need to be provided with effective development training and support. The Member Development Programme should be reviewed to ensure corporate governance forms part of the training for members with governance roles</p>	<p>Within the organisational culture theme of the Improvement Plan, the workstream on Member Learning and Development incorporates the Member Development Programme (MDP) which is addressing training needs for Members.</p> <p>A revised MDP was agreed at the start of the Municipal Year and is kept under regular review by the Ethical Standards and Member Development Committee. As part of the MDP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two sessions on Effective Member and Officer Relationships took place in September 2022. 76% Members attended. This was delivered by the LGA</li> <li>• Introductory Session to Scrutiny for newly elected Councillors in June 2022. 12 out of 13 attended.</li> <li>• Two sessions relating to the overview of scrutiny and health scrutiny were delivered to Members who were appointed onto the health scrutiny board.</li> </ul> <p>All Members have been invited to training around the Corporate Governance Framework in November 2022. This session will be delivered by CIPFA. It includes exploring the standards of governance that are expected of the Council and the principles in practice and will explain the purpose of key elements, including the local code and the annual governance statements. It will also identify the key points Members should look out for.</p> <p>Elected Members have Personal Development Plans in place identifying individual learning needs.</p>

	<p>Scrutiny Members' learning needs remain under review by the Chairs of Scrutiny Boards together with supporting Officers. Scrutiny Chairs are also receiving coaching and mentoring training from external providers. In addition, the regular survey to Audit and Scrutiny Members includes questions around Learning and Development received and any new needs arising to help ensure that the Member Development Programme is flexible to meet emerging needs.</p>
<p><b>Improvement Recommendation 14:</b> Officer and Member Relationships – the forward plan of the Cabinet should be shared with the Audit Committee and Scrutiny Board to help structure their agenda planning .</p>	<p>The forward plan is shared with all scrutiny boards (in so far as it relates to that respective scrutiny board) at every meeting to assist with the Committee's work planning.</p>
<p><b>Improvement Recommendation 12:</b> Officer and Member Relationships – There is a need to ensure that members of scrutiny and audit committees are aware of their governance roles including how to interrogate reports and the right questions</p>	<p>As above.</p> <p>Informal feedback in relation to Scrutiny indicates that the committee is working more effectively and that Members are interrogating reports well and asking appropriate questions.</p> <p>Regular meetings to develop and nurture strong, healthy working relationships with members and officers continues to take place with Chairs of scrutiny boards having regular agenda setting meetings with Directors and officers to be clear what the expectation is on reports coming to Scrutiny to enable a debate and not just information sharing. Scrutiny</p>

Board chairs collectively are also meeting more regularly, whether it is a pre-meeting or prior to Cabinet to agree lines of questioning in advance.

Views from the follow-up reviews conducted by Grant Thornton and the LGA in Autumn 2022 will provide an external perspective on the effectiveness of scrutiny. The regular survey of Officers and Members attending scrutiny will continue to provide insight into the Committee's development.