

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
Committee:	Standards Committee
Date of meeting:	12 September, 2018
Title:	Member Related Issues
Purpose of the Report:	To note progress to date
Author:	Head of Democratic Services

1.0 Background

The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on various Member related matters.

1.1 Members Annual Report

I reported to the last meeting on arrangements for the preparation of Annual Reports covering the period 2017 – 2018.

Section 5 of the Local Government Measure (Wales) 2011 places a duty on the County Council to ensure that arrangements are in place to enable Members to publish annual reports on their activities.

The timetable for publishing 2017/18 annual reports and publication on the Council's website on the 30th June, 2018 was agreed by the Democratic Services Committee in March 2018. Reports completed to date are on the Council's website:

<http://www.anglesey.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/councillors-democracy-and-elections/councillors/councillors-annual-report/>

1.2 Member Development Charter

I also reported to the last meeting on proposals to seek re-assessment for the WLGA's Wales Charter for Member Support and Development.

In 2014, the Council was awarded the WLGA's Wales Charter for Member Support and Development. The Charter aims to provide a broad framework for local planning, self-assessment, action and review and the sharing of good and innovative practice. The award was for a period of 3 years. The original intention was to seek re assessment by April 2018. However, this timetable has been reviewed in order to allow Members to complete both Annual Reports and Personal Development Reviews. Group Leaders have been consulted on progress on both aspects. (A separate report to this Committee provides an update on the Member Training and Development Programme 2018/19).

It is now proposed that re-submission is completed during Quarter 3, 2018/19.

1.3 DBS checks

There is a requirement for Members and Co-opted Members who sit on various committees/panels to have an enhanced DBS check – this is in accordance with the Council's Disclosure and Barring Policy. This task has been actioned in consultation with the Head of Learning and will be kept under review on a regular basis.

1.4 Members Biography on the Council Website

Members have been briefed on this aspect including use of the Mod.Gov committee management system to include more information on committee attendance and training details etc. on relevant pages on the website.

Members have received 1-1 support on uploading information on training courses attended to date during 2018/19 and support will be provided on an on-going basis by Democratic Services staff. Information is now available on the Council's website on both Committee Attendance and Training.

The WLGA has recently published new guidance on social media for Members. The Chair of the Standards Committee has circulated this to all Members. Social media is a useful tool for Members to connect with their electorate. There is an opportunity for Members to include Facebook and Twitter contact details on the website.

1.5 Outside Bodies

Members represent the Council on various strategic partnerships and some more local outside bodies. This is reviewed annually by the Council. A framework for monitoring key partnerships on a rolling basis was endorsed by the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee on 19th June, 2018. This report also refers to holding Members to account. The Committee's forward work programme going forward will be largely shaped by the scrutiny of certain key partnerships and an opportunity for the Committee to question Members who sit on these bodies. A link to the relevant report is below:

<http://democracy.anglesey.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=481&MId=3328&Ver=4&LLL=0> - Item 6

In relation to 'local' outside bodies, Annual reports provide an opportunity for Members to share information with the public on roles and activities. I intend to review the format of information presented for future reports to allow Members to summarise their involvement on these bodies rather than merely information on number of meetings attended.

2.0 Recommendation:

To note progress as detailed in this report.

Huw Jones
Head of Democratic Services
23 August, 2018