Committee: Overview and Scrutiny Commission

Date: 7 October 2014

Wards: All

Subject: Scrutiny training programme 2014/15

Lead officer: Julia Regan, Head of Democracy Services

Lead member: Cllr Peter Southgate, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission

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Recommendations:

That the Overview and Scrutiny Commission consider the proposals set out in this report and agree any changes it wishes to make to the scrutiny training programme.

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Commission, at its meeting on 8 July 2014, asked the Head of Democracy Services to draft a training programme for 2014/15 based on the training needs set out in the work programme report received at that meeting.
- 1.2 A draft training programme is therefore set out in Section 2 below. The Commission is requested to consider the draft and agree any changes that it wishes to make.

2. DETAILS

2.1 Draft scrutiny training programme, 2014/15:

| Date | Details of proposed training provision |
|----------|---|
| 20.10.14 | Performance management – for members of the Children and Young People O&S Panel. CSF to lead on organising - Paul Ballatt to provide session, using the CSF basket of indicators. Scrutiny Officer will attend so that similar specific sessions can be provided for other Panels and the Commission. |
| 21.10.14 | Budget scrutiny round 1- Caroline Holland to provide session similar to that given in previous years. HR to lead on organising. |
| 26.11.14 | Analysis and questioning skills – to incorporate mock scrutiny panel, based on successful review carried out by another authority. Julia Regan to lead on organising. Session to be provided by Tim Young, Associate, Centre for Public Scrutiny |

| 07.01.15 | Budget scrutiny round 2- Caroline Holland to provide session similar to that given in previous years. |
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| | HR to lead on organising. |
| Feb 2015 | Chairing and leadership skills – will be provided only if not covered in general session on chairing. |
| | Would aimed at existing and future chairs of Panels and scrutiny task groups. To be provided by Scrutiny Team (Julia/Rebecca/Stella). |
| | Scrutiny Team to lead on organising – possible date 18 or 19 Feb (both in corporate calendar as member development date) |
| April 2015 | Scrutinising the work of partners – event with input from partners (incl. health), to be provided and facilitated by the Scrutiny Team, possibly in conjunction with Policy, Strategy & Partnerships team. |
| | Scrutiny Team to lead on organising |
| 2015/16 | Scrutinising services that are not directly provided by the Council, including through a shared service arrangement. |
| | |
| various | Dates of parliamentary training sessions and London Scrutiny Network training events will be circulated to members once they have been received by Scrutiny Team |

2.2 Note that the lead responsibility for Member training and development is with HR and a programme for all councillors is currently being developed. This will draw on feedback from induction events and from 1:1 meetings that councillors have had with Kim Brown. The programme will be circulated by HR in due course.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

3.1 The Commission is invited to discuss the proposals within the report and request any changes that it wishes to make.

4. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

4.1 Training needs were identified in the Annual Member Survey and at subsequent meetings (Commission, Panels and scrutiny topic workshop).

5. FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The cost of member development and training would be met within existing budgets.

6. LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 None for the purposes of this report.

| 7. | HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS |
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| 7.1 | None for the purposes of this report. |
| 8. | CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS |
| 8.1 | None for the purposes of this report. |
| 9. | RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS |
| 9.1 | None for the purposes of this report. |
| 10. | APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT |
| 10.1 | None |
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None

BACKGROUND PAPERS