

GOXHILL PARISH COUNCIL

MEMBER DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Reviewed October 2020

1.0 Introduction

1.1 This Council is committed to the training and development of its Members in order to assist the Council in achieving its aims, objectives, priorities and vision in accordance with the plans that have been agreed. Member development is a joint and several commitments made by both the Council and the Members and will be delivered by the sourcing of appropriate training and development opportunities and sufficient funding being made available to enable engagement by all.

2.0 Member Development

2.1 It is essential that Members are given equal opportunity to develop their knowledge of local government and the law relating to parish councils and to learn and develop skills to help them serve the community. Participation in Member Development should be accepted as being part of the role of being a councillor.

2.2 This Council recognises: -

- A: The need to provide appropriate training, development and learning opportunities for all Members which will be identified by various means including (but not exclusively) self-assessment, recommendations from professional bodies, the Council stated aims and objectives and changes in legislation;
- B: That continued investment and commitment to training and development are essential if quality services are to be provided, maintained and continually improved;
- C: That it has a responsibility to provide equal access to training and development for all Members in accordance with equal opportunities legislation and existing policies.

2.3 This Council: -

- A: Will identify delivery agencies to provide training and development to maximise the potential of its Members;
- B: Will conduct an annual training needs self assessment for Members which will form the basis of a training plan linked to the Council objectives;
- C: Require all Members to actively participate in the training and development;
- D: Will identify areas of training need, in addition to Members' self assessment, which arise from changes in legislation and the changing role of this Council;

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E: Identify specific needs which will include basic new Councillor Induction and other critical topics such as gaining a thorough understanding of:

- The Planning process
- Members' Financial Management responsibilities
- The Code of Conduct
- Decision-making processes
- Dispute Resolution;

F: Identify accredited courses for councillors;

G: Source courses offered in topics that will be helpful to the development of members;

H: Source courses tailored to specific aims that the Council may have, such as attainment of the Local Councils Award Scheme.

2.4 Courses will be sourced for delivery only by appropriately qualified and indemnified providers.

3.0 Resources

3.1 The Council will provide a training and development budget and, in particular, the Council will take into account the following factors:-

- A: The identified training and development needs of Members, based on a needs assessment of all Members, reviewed annually;
- B: Training and development needs that are essential to improve and progress the agreed policies and strategies of the Council, which will be reviewed annually;
- C: The value for money to be derived from attendance.

4.0 Conclusion

4.1 This Council is determined to provide opportunities for all elected Members to further develop the necessary skills and competencies to assist Members undertake their legal obligations in terms of effective decision-making and the scrutiny of Council business.

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Signed (Council Chair): *Mike Gathercole*

Print Name: Mike Gathercole

Date: 1st October 2020

Signed (Clerk): *Vicky Haines*

Print Name: Vicky Haines

Date 1st October 2020. / Minute Reference: 2010/16 (ii)

****Original signed copy is located at the Parish Rooms ****

GOXHILL PARISH COUNCIL

MEMBER DEVELOPMENT POLICY- COUNCILLORS COMPLETED TRAINING

Reviewed October 2020

	Planning	Being A good Councillor - Part 1	Being A good Councillor - Part 2	Being A good Councillor - Part 3	Being a good employer	Social Media
Charlie Leaning						
Freda Dunkley		11/07/2019	25/09/2019	24/10/2019	14/02/2020	
Ged Kirwan						25/03/2020
Jack Lawtey	03/07/2019	11/07/2019	25/09/2019	Oct-19		
Joanne Cleghorn		11/07/2019	25/09/2019	24/10/2019		
Marion Stancer	03/07/2019	11/07/2019	25/09/2019	24/10/2019	14/02/2020	
Mike Gathercole						
Roy Atkin						
Sam England						
Theresa Simons		11/07/2019	25/09/2019	24/10/2019		
Val Gorbutt		11/07/2019	25/09/2019	24/10/2019	14/02/2020	25/03/2020