

MEMBER DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY WORKING GROUP

15th May 2013

Member representatives:

Councillor JA Brinsden, Mrs G Hayward (in place of Mr A Archer) and Councillor M James.

Officer representatives:

Mr T Jones, Chief Executive; Mrs J Evans, Administration & Democratic Services Manager.

(NPA Offices, Llanion Park, Pembroke Dock: 12.10 p.m. – 12.50 p.m.)

1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr A Archer and Ms C Gwyther.

2. **Disclosures of interest**

No disclosures of interest were received.

3. **Minutes**

It was **AGREED** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 27th February 2013 be confirmed and signed.

4. **Member Development Strategy**

The Administration and Democratic Services Manager reminded the Group that the current Member Development Strategy and supporting training programme, which had been adopted in 2008, was due for review. Revised documents had been prepared for Members' consideration, and these had been circulated prior to the meeting. She stated that she had slimmed down the Member Support and Development Programme to incorporate only the key elements of Member induction and training, and it was intended to develop a more detailed training plan which would be linked to these key elements, and which would incorporate those training needs that had been identified by Members at their Personal Development Reviews (PDR). It had been hoped to present the training plan (the final piece of the "golden thread" of Member support and development) to the Group that day but, unfortunately, not all PDR had been completed yet. The Chief Executive expressed disappointment at this fact, bearing in mind the strength of Member opinion when it was reported at a recent National Park Authority meeting that the Authority would not be pursuing the Advanced level of the Welsh Local Government Association's Charter for Member Support and



Development but would, instead, request a re-assessment of the Charter level award.

Members welcomed the revised documents, considering them to be more straightforward than the previous. However, they suggested that a module on IT be included in the Support and Development Programme, particularly now that the Authority was exploring the use of tablet computers for Members in order to reduce printing and postage costs.

It was **AGREED** that the National Park Authority be recommended to:

- a) adopt the revised Member Development Strategy and Member Support and Development Programme, subject to the inclusion of a module on IT;
- b) delegate authority to the Member Development Strategy Working Group to review and amend the Member Support and Development Programme on an annual basis, and
- c) undertake a comprehensive review of the Member Development Strategy in 2017.

