

Member Development

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

For further information about this report please contact John Redmond, Chief Fire Officer, on 01743 260201 or Louise McKenzie, Assistant Chief Fire Officer – Corporate Services on 01743 260280.

1 Purpose of Report

This report updates the Committee on Member development activity over the past year and proposes training and development activity for the year April 2014 to March 2015.

2 Recommendations

The Committee is asked to note the backward-looking report and agree the proposed training and development activity for the year April 2014 to March 2015.

3 Background

In April 2013 the Committee agreed a Member Training and Development Programme for the year to March 2014, which covered technical competence and specific knowledge of the Fire and Rescue Service to assist Members in performing their role with the Fire Authority.

4 Progress against the Training Plan 2013 - 14

Table 1 overleaf shows the training that has been delivered to Members for the year to 31 March 2014.

Table 1 – Member Training Delivered 2013/14

Date	Training Event	Participants
7 March 2013	Annual Statement of Assurance Briefing	Audit and Performance Management Committee
3 October 2013	Firefighters Pension and Compensation Schemes	Human Resources Committee Appeals Panel
17 October 2013	Retained Duty System Terms of Employment	Human Resources Committee Appeals Panel
14 November 2013	Value for Money, Member-led discussion	Audit and Performance Management Committee
22 January 2014	Induction for new Member	New Member
Various	Some members were invited to attend the Gypsy and Traveller training delivery for staff	Small number of members

Table 2 – Member training planned but not delivered 2012/13

Training Event	Reason for Non-Delivery
Fire Pensions Update	Advice from the Pensions Team and Shropshire Council suggests that it is not possible to deliver this with the current arrangements.
Dyslexia Awareness	This was planned for the September meeting of the Fire Authority but the agenda was too full. It was suggested that the training be reduced to approximately half an hour but this was unrealistic and so the session has not been held.

5 Proposed Training and Development Plan 2014/15

To try to address the problem of fitting training sessions in around existing meetings, officers suggest reverting to organising a Member Conference, which would be a one-day event, offering input on a range of topics, as shown below. Member are then able to choose to attend all or part of the day as their diary commitments allow. Should the need for further specific training arise for Members dealing with certain issues, such as appeals, this would, of course, be planned, in addition to the conference content proposed below.

The Essentials

Corporate Responsibilities

- Vision, Aims and Objectives
- Statutory and Non-Statutory Business

Our Services

- Service Delivery – Structure and Function
- Duty Systems
- Retained Firefighters
- Training
- Districts

Our People

- Workforce Development
- Core Values and Organisational Culture

Authority Finance and Strategy

- Monitoring financial information
- Asset management and procurement strategies
- Community risk reduction planning
- Public Value and 2020 Strategy

The Role of the Authority Member

- Governance / Leadership
- Health and Safety responsibilities
- Corporate Risk / Business Continuity responsibilities
- Confidentiality / Freedom of Information / Data Protection

Dyslexia Awareness

Gypsy and Traveller Awareness training

Fire Pensions Update (if possible)

6 Financial Implications

A budget exists for Member development and any provision would be contained within the budget. There are, therefore, no additional financial implications arising from this report.

7 Legal Comment

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

8 Initial Impact Assessment

This report provides historical information regarding training delivered to Members and proposed areas for Member development in 2014/15. Any activities will be targeted at identifying and meeting Members' needs. As such, an Initial Impact Assessment is not necessary.

9 Equality Impact Assessment

This report provides historical information regarding training delivered to Members and proposed areas for Member development in 2014/15. Any activities will be targeted at identifying and meeting Members' needs. As such an Equality Impact Assessment is not necessary.

10 Appendix

There are no appendices attached to this report.

11 Background Papers

There are no background papers associated with this report.