



Walsall Council

Standards Committee – 25 January 2010

Training for elected members

1. Summary of report

To advise the Committee of the Members' Code of Conduct training delivered to members in November 2009.

2. Recommendations

That the contents of the report be noted.

3. Background information

Two member training sessions were held on 4 and 26 November 2009, relating to updates to the Members' Code Conduct. The training was provided by Judith Barnes of Eversheds. In order for maximum flexibility for members the 4 November session was held during the day and the 26 November session was held at 6.00 p.m. in the evening. Both sessions were well attended and all members reported that they felt the sessions had proved useful.

The aims of the sessions were as follows:

- Update on changes to the ethical framework
- Discussions on the Code of Conduct - What can and cannot be said?
- Brief explanation of enforcement regime
- Party political publicity – What is it?
- What extra rules were there for elections?

A copy of the programme and presentation is appended to the report for information.

4. Resource considerations

4.1 **Financial:** All costs are contained within the Member training budget.

4.2 **Legal:** None arising from this report.

4.3 **Staffing:** None arising from this report.

5. Citizen impact

By providing training for members, the Council will be contributing to raising the public's perception and confidence in the standard of decision making within the authority.

6. Community safety

None arising from this report.

7. Environmental impact

None arising from this report.

8. Performance and risk management issues

8.1 **Risk:** The risk of members receiving no training could lead to unsafe decision making.

8.2 **Performance management:** None arising from this report.

9. Equality implications

None arising from this report

10. Consultation

None arising from this report

Background papers

All published

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15 January 2010



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15 January 2010