



# ISLINGTON

**Corporate Resources**  
**Town Hall, Upper Street, London N1 2UD**

**Report of : Director of Corporate Resources**

Meeting of		Agenda Item	Ward(s)
Standards	19th June 2006		

Delete as appropriate	Exempt	Non-exempt

If exempt under paragraph 10.4, category (1-15) of the Access to Information rules give reasons. Because:

**Subject: MEMBER TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR 2006/07**

**1. Synopsis**

This report sets out a proposed draft programme for Member Training and Development for 2006/07.

**2. Recommendation**

That the Committee note and comment on the draft programme as appropriate.

**3. Details**

- 3.1 Following the borough elections on the 4 May, an induction event was held on the 19 May and repeated on 24 May. These provided an opportunity for Councillors to meet Directors and senior officers in an informal setting and to find out about the work of Council departments and partner agencies.
- 3.2 On the weekend of the 20 and 21 May, Councillors had an intensive weekend where they were brought up to speed on Planning and Licensing matters, decision-making, the Code of Conduct and the work of this Committee. The Chair and Jo Michie were in attendance on the 20 May and were able to elaborate on the role of the Committee and the work that it did.
- 3.3 The weekend was well attended with over 30 councillors attending on each day and positive feedback was received.

3.4 Individual service departments are holding briefing meetings for Councillors on the following dates:

22 June: Housing and Performance Improvement  
26 June: Environment and Regeneration  
27 June: Customer Focus  
11 July: Finance

All Councillors have also received an invite to the Association of London Governments Annual London Summit for new Councillors being held on the 17 June 2006.

A briefing meeting is also being arranged for all planning chairs and vice chairs on the 29 June 2006 before the meeting of full Council.

3.5 Discussions are also underway with both political groups around specific help and support they need. Use is being made of Member Peers as part of the Improvement and Development Agency Scheme where experienced members provide support to new Councillors.

3.6 Details have also been circulated to the Groups on the IDeA Leadership Academy Programme which is a modular based programme designed for both executive and non-executive Councillors.

3.7 It is understood the Labour Group are planning to carry out a skills and development need audit for each of their members. Once this has been completed, this can then be used to identify what further training and development is required.

3.8 The following events are programmed in for the rest of the year. Exact timings are still to be agreed on some of these. This does not include training undertaken by the Groups themselves at their awaydays or conferences attended by members.

### **July**

6 July am ) Borough Bus Induction Tour - covering key sites in the  
12 July pm ) borough.  
- Briefing on new Casework Management System  
- Media skills

### **September**

Finance training  
Equalities and Disability Awareness  
Recruitment and Selection

### **October**

Presentation and public speaking  
Chairing meetings  
Time management  
Speed reading

### **November**

Back to the floor visits - Councillors get the chance to spend time on the front line with services

**December**

Community Engagement  
Code of Conduct

**4. Implications**

**Financial**

4.1 Costs of training and development will be met from within existing budgets

**Legal**

4.2 There is no specific requirement for members to undergo training but clearly it would assist them and the Council to discharge their responsibilities if they do.

**Equality**

4.3 Equality issues will be taken on board as part of any training offered. An audit is being undertaken to assess Councillors disabilities needs and the results from this will also be taken into account in respect of member training and development. The requirements of the Disability Discrimination (Amendment) Act 2005 will come into force in December 2006 and will significantly extend the Council's obligations in respect of disability. It is important that all Councillors receive disability awareness training in order to ensure that the Council is in a position to meet those obligations.

**5. Conclusion and reason for recommendation**

This report sets out a suggested programme of events for the remainder of the year to help members obtain the necessary knowledge and skills to carry out their roles more effectively.

**Background papers:**

None.

Final Report Clearance

Signed by

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Director of Corporate Resources

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Date

Received by

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Head of Democratic Services

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Date

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