

10. MEMBER DEVELOPMENT 2007/08 (A.111/CH)

Proposal

1 This report requests approval of a programme of Member Development Events for 2007/08.

2 RECOMMENDATION:

That the Member Development Programme 2007/08 set out in Annexes 1 and 2 to the report be approved.

Policy/Legal Background

3 A report is brought to the Authority on an annual basis to approve the Member Development Programme.

This year a review of current arrangements has been initiated to assess how the need for Member development is best met.

4 The stated objective for Member development is:

“To ensure Members have the appropriate skills, knowledge and attitudes to fulfil their role as a Member of the Authority and that processes are in place to support this.”

Key Issues

5 The topics for the programme have been selected following discussions at Strategic Advisory Group (SAG), a meeting between Management Team and Democratic Services and a meeting with two Members as suggested by SAG on 20 April 2007.

6 A fuller report will be considered by SAG at its next meeting and at the Authority Meeting on 5 October 2007. This will include:

- An evaluation of Member training drawn from feedback forms
- Suggested guiding principles for planning Member development events and any resource implications.
- Proposals for tailoring development more closely to the specific needs of an individual member and to the National Park Authority's priorities

7 The proposed programme is set out at Annexes 1 and 2.

APPENDIX

Background

- 1 A review of our approach to Members' training and development has been initiated for several reasons including:
- The reduction in Membership from 38 to 30 will increase Members' workload and requires us to consider whether we are trying to achieve too much
 - The work on prioritisation needs to be reflected in the delivery of training so that Members' training is geared to the Authority's priorities
 - Feedback from Members indicates training sessions should be "fewer and better"
 - A recognition that significant staff time is involved in providing training sessions, not all of which are well attended
- 2 On 20 April 2007 SAG suggested that two Members (Deputy Chair of the Authority and Chair of Planning Committee/Standards Committee) should work with the Director of Corporate Resources and Democratic Services Officer to review Member training and development and produce a report back to SAG.

Resources

- 3 All Member development events are funded out of the current Member Budget.

Risk Management

- 4 There are no risk management issues relating to this proposal.

Human Rights, Equalities, Health & Safety

- 5 There are no Human Rights or Health & Safety implications arising out of this proposal. All Members have equality of opportunity to attend the programme.

Consultees

- 6 Members via evaluation forms completed after each training/development event.
Management Team.
SAG.

Enclosures

- 7 Annex 1: 2007/08 Member Training and Development Programme
Annex 2: Calendar of Meetings July 2007-October 2008 with dates of training events identified

List of Background Papers (not previously published)

- 8 Evaluation forms from ten Member events May 2006 to March 2007.

Report Author

- 10 Chris Hume
Democratic Services Officer

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- 11 28 June 2007