

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

ETHICS AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE
15th DECEMBER 2009

Training Requirements

OPEN	
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Monitoring Officer
CONTACT OFFICER:	Mrs C S Newlands Ext. 2715 Email: caroline.newlands@wyreforestdc.gov. uk
APPENDICES	None.

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1. To review the training requirements for Members and Parish/Town Councillors.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to DECIDE: that any training requests made in the meeting be actioned.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1. All District/Parish/Town Councillors are expected to abide by the Code of Conduct which was adopted in 2007.
- 3.2. It is considered good practice to offer training to Councillors on a regular basis to reinforce their knowledge of the Code of Conduct and keep them up to date with legislative changes.

4. KEY ISSUES

- 4.1. As party of the authority's Annual Return to the Standards Board it is required to demonstrate that training has taken place/been offered to all Councillors.
- 4.2 Training can also be underpinned by offering additional resources such as:
- Briefings
 - Providing Members with Standards Board for England publications/training materials

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. The financial implications of offering training can be met from existing budgets.

6. LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. The Council is required to determine local breaches of the Code of Conduct under legislation including the Local Government and Public Involvement in health Act and The Standards Committee (England) Regulations 2008.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 7.1. If Members are not trained properly on the implications of the Code of Conduct it is possible that the Council will have more breaches of the Code than previously and this will reflect on the reputation of the authority.

8. CONCLUSION

- 8.1. In line with the expectations of the Standards Board for England the Council is keen to offer appropriate training for all Councillors within the District to ensure that Members adhere to the Code of Conduct and promote high standards within their Council.

9. CONSULTEES

- 9.1. Chairman/Vice-Chairman Ethics and Standards Committee

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 None