

Report To: Standards Committee
Date of Meeting: 22nd September 2017
Lead Member / Officer: Gary Williams, Monitoring Officer
Report Author: Gary Williams, Monitoring Officer
Title: **Provision of Code of Conduct Training**

1. What is the report about?

This report is about the Code of Conduct training sessions that have been provided since the local government elections in May 2017.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

To inform members of the Committee of the training sessions that have been provided since the local government elections in May and the attendance of both County and Town, City and Community councillors

3. What are the Recommendations?

That members consider the information provided in the report and consider what, if any, further training events should be provided

4. Report details

Following their election, all elected members must sign an undertaking that they will abide by the terms of the Code of Conduct for Members before they are allowed to take up office.

The Code of Conduct for County Councillors makes it a requirement of the Code that elected members must attend at least one training session on the code in each Council term.

The first training session for County Councillors was held on 11th May and was attended by 31 of the 47 County Councillors. One of the County Councillors who was unable to attend this session came to one of the later sessions held for Town, City and Community Councillors. A further training session is to be held during the evening of 12th October to provide an opportunity for County Councillors who were unable to attend on 11th May.

There was a training session held on 20th June for Clerks to Town, City and Community Councils which was attended by 8 clerks.

A number of sessions were then arranged for members of Town, City and Community Councils. There were 5 sessions in all, 2 of which were held in Denbigh, 2 in Ruthin and 1 in Rhyl. These were a mixture of daytime and evening sessions.

A total of 78 Councillors attended these 5 sessions as well as 2 members of the Standards Committee. The feedback received from those who attended was very positive. The breakdown of those who attended by their Council is attached as Appendix 1.

A small number of Town, City and Community Councils did ask if it would be possible for training to be provided to them at their Councils. The response to this was that we would wait and see how many members managed to attend the 5 pre-arranged sessions before considering more bespoke arrangements. It may be that this can be revisited through the Autumn and Winter. It would be possible to provide shorter, more focussed sessions on specific parts of the Code of Conduct, depending on individual Council needs rather than the full sessions that have thus far been delivered.

5. How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?

The decision does not impact directly on the Corporate Priorities

6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?

There no direct costs associated with this report. The training will be provided by staff whose costs are contained within existing budgets.

7. What are the main conclusions of the Well-being Impact Assessment? The completed Well-being Impact Assessment report can be downloaded from the [website](#) and should be attached as an appendix to the report

This report does not seek to introduce a change or a proposal that would require such an assessment.

8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?

There have been no other consultations

9. Chief Finance Officer Statement

There are no direct financial consequences as a result of this report.

10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?

There is a risk that if Members are not able to access appropriate training they may inadvertently breach the Code of Conduct.

11. Power to make the Decision

Section 8.6.5 of the Council's constitution