

**Providing Council with Written Responses to Questions at Council –
18 March 2014**

1. Mrs L Davies asked the Head of Democratic Services

Questions

- 1) Lis Davies asked the Head of Democratic Services questions in relation to Minute 208 “Councillor Learning and Development Strategy”.
 - a) “Page 152, Paragraph 9.15 states that ‘Councillor Development events will be placed in individual Councillors electronic calendars’ and Paragraph 9.16 states that “At each session the attendance will be recorded and circulated to the Member Support Unit for recording purposes’.
 - 1) How many such development events have taken place to date?
 - 2) What is the attendance record at each event?
 - b) Page 153, Paragraph 9.19 states that ‘Councillor learning and development will be resourced from the allocated Councillor Development budget(s)’.
 - 1) What was the total amount set aside for the 2013-2014 Councillor Development budget?
 - 2) What is the total amount allocated for the 2014-2015 Councillor Development budget?
 - c) Page 153, Paragraph 9.27 states ‘These records can also be used to provide information for evaluation purposes and for the completion of Councillors Annual Reports which have been introduced as part of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011’.
 - 1) Will the Councillor Annual Reports be in the public domain?

Response of the Head of Democratic Services

The sessions arranged via the Councillor Training Programme for 2013-2014 are outlined below. The date, title of the training session and number of Councillors who attended is as follows:

Date	Training Session	Number of Councillors attended	Number of Co-Opted Members attended
27 November 2013	Understanding the Council Budget and Departmental budgets	16	2
17 December 2013	Introduction to Media Training	10	1

22 January 2014	Rules of Debate	12	3
19 February 2014	Chairing Skills	8 (+ 1 from Neath Port Talbot CBC)	2
5 March 2014	Making Social Media work for Councillors	6	3

The following additional training events were also provided:

Date	Training Session	Number of Councillors attended	Number of Co-Opted Members attended
8 July 2013	Personal Development Review (for Reviewers)	8	0
14 October 2013	Pre Decision Making	35	0
17 October 2013	Emotional Intelligence	8	0
25 October 2013	How to be a good Corporate Parent	24	0
28 October 2013	Personal Development Review (for Reviewers)	2	0
6 November 2013	Chairing Skills (@ Neath Port Talbot CBC)	3	0
21 February 2014	Active Listening Skills (@ Neath Port Talbot CBC)	7	0
7 March 2014	WLGA Development Programme for Equality Champions (Induction session)	6	0
27-28 April 2013 1-2 June 2013 22-23 June 2013	Leadership Academy	19 or 22? We don't have a definitive list of which Cllrs attended which session	0

The training outlined below took place as a result of committee membership changes:

Date	Training Session	Number of Councillors attended	Number of Co-Opted Members attended
17 June 2013	Appointments Committee	2	0
30 January 2014	Licensing Committee	1	

12 February 2014	Standards Committee	1	0
18 February 2014	HMO & Street Trading (Licensing Committee)	1	0

- B1. The total amount set aside for the 2013-2014 Councillor Development budget was £6,000.
- B2. The total amount allocated for the 2014-2015 Councillor Development budget is £4,000 (proposed).
- C1. Yes they will be published on the Council website (in June/July for the previous municipal year). Completion of the forms will be on a voluntary basis.