



GROUP LEADERS REPORT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND ELECTIONS (WALES) ACT 2021 DUTIES

Group Leader: Councillor Rob Stewart

Political Group: Labour

Number of Members: 45

Date completed:

1. Training

- Number of new members in group trained on Code of Conduct - **10**
- Number of existing members in group trained on Code of Conduct - **27**
- Number of members in group who have undertaken induction training - **10**

I have also encouraged members of my Group to undertake a range of other training opportunities including;

- Understanding Local Area Co-ordination
- E Voting
- Local Government Finance
- Licensing Committee Training (where applicable)
- Planning Committee Training – Rights of Way & Commons/Village Green Status
- Governance & Audit Committee – Induction
- Introduction to Scrutiny
- Governance & Audit Committee (Governance, Financial Management & Accounting, External Audit, Values of Good Governance)
- Governance & Audit Committee (Corporate Complaints, Governance, Performance Management, Whistleblowing)
- Governance & Audit Committee – Counter Fraud
- Licensing Committee Training – HMO's
- Chair/Vice Chair Training
- Introduction to Interests, Gifts, Hospitality, Code of Conduct and Standards
- Bias/Predetermination & Rules of Natural Justice

- Cllrs Allowances & Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales, Cllrs Self Serve – Claims for Travel, Subsistence Allowances & Cllrs Handbook.
- Communications & Social Media (and its safe use)
- Data Protection Training, Cyber Security, FOI Training and Cllrs as Data Controllers
- Corporate Parenting Training
- Recruitment and Selection Training
- Disciplinary Training
- Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence
- Safeguarding Adults and Protection of Children
- Wellbeing of Future Generations Act
- Planning Training (Applications referred to Council)

Answer/response:

Please note that while this is a summary of information recorded for physical attendance at training, members may have also accessed the online training.

2. What actions have you undertaken within your group to promote compliance with the duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by members of your group.

Answer/Response:

In addition to the training stated above that has been provided by the council, I have also delivered a number of Group training sessions to assist with induction of new members, refreshers for existing members and greater understanding of the processes and procedures of Council.

I also meet with all members regularly as a Group and hold 1-2-1 sessions with cabinet members and officers regularly.

I also meet with Group members regularly and on a Ward basis to check in and see how they are doing, identify any issues, provide advice and guidance and assist in finding resolutions

Other actions I have taken include;

- Attending relevant development and training myself
- Encouraging group members to attend all relevant training and chasing any non attendance
- Ensuring nominees to Committees have received the recommended training

- Working to ensure chairs of committees receive additional training
- Promoting civility, respect within all communications and at meetings
- Promoting informal resolution procedures within my group and also within the Council and working with the Monitoring Officer/ Standards Committee to achieve local resolution
- Promoting a culture within my group which supports high standards of conduct and integrity and the Nolan principles
- Attending meetings of the Standards Committee if requested to discuss Code of Conduct issues
- Meeting regularly with other group leaders to discuss items of importance and any issues and always to support high standards of conduct within the Council

3. Are there any specific issues which you wish to bring to the Chair's attention in relation to your new duty. (This would include any sensitive issues which have arisen, any use of the member/officer code of conduct, PSOW investigations).

Answer/Response:

None at present.

4. Are there any matters upon which the Standards committee could assist ie training, higher profile etc

Answer/response:

None at present