

ASSEMBLY

18 May 2016

Title: London Charter for Elected Member Development	
Report of the Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance, Growth & Investment	
Open Report	For Information
Wards Affected: All	Key Decision: No
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Accountable Director: Fiona Taylor, Director of Law and Governance	
Summary The Council was successfully re-assessed on 8 December 2015 for the London Boroughs Charter for Elected Member Development. The award is being formally presented to Assembly this evening by Councillor Andy Hull, Executive Member for Finance and Performance, London Borough of Islington, a member of the Assessment Panel, on behalf of London Councils.	
Recommendation To note the report and accept the Charter	
Reason(s) The presentation of the Charter at the Assembly profiles the Council's commitment to a high standard of Member development.	

1. Introduction and Background

- 1.1 Barking & Dagenham was initially awarded the London Councils Charter for Elected Member Development in February 2009. Successful reassessments have since been held in July 2012 and December 2015.
- 1.2 The Charter is a nationally recognised structured quality framework. It assesses the processes, impact and effectiveness of member development.
- 1.3 A self assessment together with relevant strategies, plans, programmes, reports, handbooks, performance data and notes from key meetings were provided to the Assessors prior to the day of the assessment interviews.

2. Proposal and Issues

2.1 All key standards for the Charter have successfully been met by Barking & Dagenham. These are:

- Commitment to Councillor development
- Strategic approach to Councillor development
- Learning and development is effective in building capacity
- Supporting Councillors

2.2 Councillor Andy Hull, Executive Member for Finance and Performance, London Borough of Islington is in attendance this evening to formally present the Council with the Award

3. Options Appraisal

3.1 There is no statutory requirement to gain Charter status. However, the Charter provides Members with an assurance that the Council is attaining a high development standard, a structured approach to assessing current performance and how to improve, London-wide and national benchmarking of standards and external assurance that the Council is committed to member development.

4. Consultation

4.1 The following Members and Officers were interviewed during the Charter Assessment process:

Members: Councillor Dominic Twomey (Deputy Leader of the Council), Councillor Laila Butt, Councillor Jane Jones, Councillor Edna Fergus, Councillor Hardial Singh Rai, Councillor Peter Chand, Councillor Jeff Wade and Councillor Sade Bright.

Officers: Chris Naylor (Chief Executive), Fiona Taylor (Director of Law and Governance), John Dawe (Group Manager Democratic Services), Robin Payne (Divisional Director Environmental Services), Fiona Jamieson (Organisation and Member Development Officer)

5. Financial Implications

Implications completed by: Kathy Freeman, Divisional Director, Finance.

5.1 The cost of Members' Development will be met by existing Democratic Services Learning & Development budgets.

6. Legal Implications

Implications completed by: Dr. Paul Feild Senior Governance Lawyer.

6.1 There are no specific legal implications to this report.

Background Papers Used in the Preparation of the Report:

London Charter for Elected Member Development Assessors' Report 8 December 2015