

Report of Elected Member Development Steering Group of Mid Ulster District Council held on *17 May 2021* via Zoom

Attendees **Members:** Councillors Doris, Elattar, Forde, Mallaghan, McKinney

Officers: P Moffett Head of Democratic Services, E Forde, Member Support Officer, S McAleer Corporate L&D Manager

Apologies Cllrs Ashton, Buchannon

AGENDA	MATTERS AGREED	ACTIONS & RESPONSIBILITY				
1.0	Chair’s Business					
	The Chair, Councillor McKinney commended Councillors Burton, Doris, Glasgow, Graham who had completed NILGA Leadership Development Accredited Course and Councillor Brown who completed the NILGA Local Planning Programme Accredited Course					
2.0	Training Update					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Member Support Officer provided update on training highlighting forthcoming opportunities on MS Teams/Zoom and Core HR;Noted that Evaluation Sheets need to be completed and Members encouraged to complete and forward at time of training.	EMDWG Members Member Support Officer				
3.0	Future Training Agreed					
	<table><tr><td>TRAINING</td><td>Time Frame</td></tr><tr><td>Suicide Awareness</td><td></td></tr></table>	TRAINING	Time Frame	Suicide Awareness		Member Support Officer Corporate L&D Manager
TRAINING	Time Frame					
Suicide Awareness						

		Counselling and dealing with tragedies PIPS to offer one hour session Focus Agreed: dealing with constituents – listening to them, signposting them & also being aware of your own mental health – increased people contacting you, dealing with issues, your own lock down, different way of working	To be planned June 2021	
		Register of Interest – Prepare Sample Form – In house	June 2021	
		Chairing & Facilitation - Opt for training which combines Chairing & Facilitation in line with Standing Orders	June 2021	
		Self Defence	Defer until restrictions list	
		Developing Professional Relationships	To be completed by September 2021	
		Cognitive Behaviour Therapy – issue questionnaire to members to assist development of course	Progress across six month time frame if possible not virtual	
		Scrutiny & Challenge – continue as per MUDC Member Development programme and timeframes previously agreed		
		Regulating and Monitoring – continue as per MUDC Member Development		

	programme and timeframes previously agreed		
	Sign Language Course – Explore possibility of information for Sign language course for Members		
4.0	Verbal Update on Charter Review		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Member Support Officer reminded Members that Charter Review had to be postponed due to impact of COVID 19 but was now rescheduled for 26 May 2021. As previous the Chair of the Working Group Cllr McKinney, Member Support Officer and Head of Democratic Services would be interviewed for the review		Chair, Member Support Officer & Head of Democratic Services
5.0	Consideration of Training Methods		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Elearning Demonstration to be planned early summer to increase awareness of Elearning opportunitiesMembers noted the timesaved in participating in on line training but stated that for example CBT training would be better in person, hybrid to be offered as COVID restrictions lift.		C L&D Manager Member Support Officer
6	Any other business		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">High Visibility vests to be issued to MembersTeam Building Day for Elected Members to be explored in line with COVID restrictions lifting		Member Support Officer & Head of Democratic Services
Meeting concluded at 5.45 pm			



the voice of local government

Adrian McCreesh
Chief Executive
Mid Ulster District Council
Council Offices
Circular Road
Dungannon
BT71 6DT

27th May 2021

Dear Adrian

Re: Councillor Development Charter Review

NILGA wishes to advise Council that, following the recent review of Mid Ulster District's Councillor Development Charter, it has demonstrated the corporate retention of this prestigious standard. Congratulations on this strong endorsement of your Council's approach to learning and development.

As you will be aware, NILGA is the sole accreditation body for Councillor Development Charter delivery in N. Ireland. In follow up to Mid Ulster District Council achievement of the initial Charter standard in December 2018, this formal review applied a rigorous national and local assessment framework, but also recognised the impact of the global pandemic, the disruption of council business and the fragile financial landscape, which is why it has been carried out later than typically envisaged (usually 18-20 months after the initial Award).

NILGA's Fiona Douglas, Regional Development Manager, led a thorough discussion with the Chair of the Elected Member Development Steering Group, Cllr Derek McKinney and Officers, Philip Moffett and Eileen Forde. The discussion covered Council's comprehensive

Northern Ireland Local Government Association

Bradford Court, Upper Galwally, Castlereagh, BT8 6RB

Tel: 028 9079 8972 email: office@nilga.org web: www.nilga.org twitter: @NI_LGA

written submission provided in advance. It was clear and evident from the submission and the discussion that Council continues to demonstrate a strong commitment to councillor development and support, offers this to every member, reinforces this to its senior managers, and has in place a strategic plan with appropriate resource for learning and development that builds contemporary knowledge and skills.

Mid Ulster District Council is therefore continuing to meet the requirements of the Charter standard which has a life span of three years. After this period and factoring in delay brought about by local and national framework reviews and the pandemic, a full reassessment will be undertaken at a mutually acceptable juncture.

On the basis that Council as a corporate body is content with this update & progress path, we will make appropriate arrangements to continue the charter assessment work with your sub-committee Chair, fellow elected members and your officer team.

With thanks for your continued co-operation.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Derek McCallan', with a stylized, cursive script.

Derek McCallan
Chief Executive