



## **RHONDDA CYNON TAF**

### **RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

#### **STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**20 SEPTEMBER 2019**

#### **CODE OF CONDUCT REFRESHER TRAINING**

#### **REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER**

##### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To provide the Committee with feedback on attendance at Code of Conduct Training sessions offered to Members and agree a programme of refresher training to be conducted during the 2019-2020 Municipal Year.

##### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 To note the contents of the report; and

2.2 Agree that Code of Conduct refresher training for County Borough and Town/Community Councillors be undertaken during the remainder of the 2019-2020 Municipal Year.

##### **3. BACKGROUND**

3.1 Following the Local Government Elections on 4 May 2017, a series of training sessions were held for County Borough Councillors on the Code of Conduct. Three sessions were held on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May, Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May and Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. A session was also held for all Cabinet Members on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2017. A variety of start times were also offered to accommodate all Councillors.

3.2 The expectation of the Standards Committee is that all County Borough Councillors should attend Code of Conduct training. Out of the 75 County Borough Councillors elected to Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council, 59 Councillors attended one of the sessions offered.

3.3 In July 2017 two Code of Conduct training events were also convened for Town/Community Councillors.

#### **4. REFRESHER TRAINING**

- 4.1 The Monitoring Officer considers now is an appropriate time to conduct Code of Conduct refresher training with all County Borough Councillors and that this should be completed during the remainder of the 2019-2020 Municipal Year. Training sessions would also be offered to Town/Community Councillors.
- 4.2 Whereas previously sessions were held in the Council's Chamber with approximately 20-25 Members attending each session it is proposed that for the refresher training for County Borough Councillors, training be held in smaller groups. It is considered this will allow the training to better focus on the particular needs of individual Members and the considerations they are likely to need to have particular regard to in respect of Code of Conduct issues, depending on their particular role and the Committee(s) they sit on.
- 4.3 The Committee is now asked to endorse the approach outlined above and agree Code of Conduct refresher training be undertaken during the remainder of the 2019-2020 Municipal Year.
- 4.4 The Monitoring Officer will then update the Committee at a future meeting in relation to attendance at the training together with any relevant feedback received.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

**AS AMENDED BY**

**THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

**STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

**20 SEPTEMBER 2019**

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**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

**Freestanding Matter**

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