

 Brent	Audit and Standards Advisory Committee 29 September 2022
	Report from: Corporate Director, Governance
Standards Report (including quarterly update on Gifts & Hospitality, and mandatory training)	
Wards Affected:	All
Key or Non-Key Decision:	Not applicable
Open or Part/Fully Exempt: <small>(If exempt, please highlight relevant paragraph of Part 1, Schedule 12A of 1972 Local Government Act)</small>	Open
No. of Appendices:	1) Appendix A: Gifts & Hospitality Register (Qtr 2) 2) Appendix B: Member Training Attendance
Background Papers:	None
Contact Officer(s): <small>(Name, Title, Contact Details)</small>	(1) Debra Norman, Corporate Director, Governance (ext. 1578) (2) Bianca Robinson, Senior Constitutional & Governance Lawyer (ext. 1544)

1.0 Purpose of the Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Audit and Standards Advisory Committee on gifts and hospitality registered by Members and the attendance record for Members in relation to mandatory training sessions.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Committee note the contents of this report.

3.0 Detail

Gifts & Hospitality

- 3.1 Members are required to register gifts and hospitality received in an official capacity worth an estimated value of at least £50. This includes a series of gifts and hospitality from the same person that add up to an estimated value of at least £50 in a municipal year.
- 3.2 Gifts and hospitality received by Members are published on the Council's website and open to inspection at the Brent Civic Centre.
- 3.3 For the second quarter of 2022/23 (July – Sept 2022), there have been four gifts and hospitality recorded as being received, these are set out in further detail in Appendix A, together with the details of the receiving Councillor.
- 3.4 The Committee will recall that hospitality accepted by the Mayor in their civic role are recorded separately and published on the Council's website.

Member Training Attendance

- 3.5 Officers are pleased to report with the exception of Equalities training and Safeguarding vulnerable adults all members have completed the mandatory training including Standards parts 1& 2 and Data Protection courses.
- 3.6 The following relates to the number of Members who have not attended the mandatory training sessions. The names of the respective Cllrs are set out in Appendix B.

Mandatory all Member sessions:

- 7 Member needs to attend the Equalities training
- 2 Members need to attend the Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Training.
- 4 Members need to attend the Corporate Parenting & Safeguarding Children

In fairness to the Cllrs, a new Equality and Diversity officer has now taken up post and will be setting a date for the training session shortly; and senior officers are to set a date to arrange 1-2-1/ training for the Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults and Corporate Parenting & Safeguarding Children Training. Officers hope to be in a position to update the Committee at its meeting on the 29.09.22 of the dates the training will take place.

- 3.6 The Committee is reminded of the following.

- a) It is a requirement of the Members' Code of Conduct that all members':

"must attend mandatory training sessions on this Code or Members' standards in general, and in accordance with the Planning Code of Practice and Licensing Code of Practice" para 19.

“must attend Safeguarding, Equalities and Data Protection training provided by the council” para 20.

- b) The schedule for all mandatory sessions was published and approved at the May 2022 Annual Council meeting.
- c) All internal training sessions attended by Members are published on the Council's Website and on individual Member profile pages.
- d) Currently, there are five mandatory training sessions provided for all Members and five mandatory sessions provided for Committee Members and, where appropriate, co-opted Members. These are set out in Table 1 below.
- e) Mandatory sessions are provided annually and all Committee Members and substitutes are required to attend the relevant session. In addition, all other Members are invited to attend the sessions.

3.7 Table 1

Mandatory Training	Attendee requirement
1) Standards and the Code of Practice	All Members
2) Corporate Parenting & Safeguarding Children	All Members
3) Safeguarding vulnerable adults	All Members
4) Equalities Training	All Members
5) Data Protection Training	All Members
6) Planning	Committee Members only
7) Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing	Committee Members only
8) Scrutiny Induction	Committee Members only
9) Audit & Standards Committee and the Audit & Standards Advisory Committee induction training	Committee Members only
10) Brent Pensions Fund – Approach to responsible investment	Committee Members only

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising out of this report.

5.0 Legal Implications

- 5.1 The Council, individual Members and co-opted Members are required to promote and maintain high standards of conduct in accordance with s27 of the Localism Act 2011.

The attendance at mandatory training sessions is a means to achieve this and a requirement pursuant to the Brent Members' Code of Conduct as set out in Part 5, of the council's Constitution.

6.0 Equality Implications

6.1 There are no equality implications arising out of this report.

7.0 Consultation with Ward Members and Stakeholders

7.1 Not applicable.

8.0 Human Resources/Property Implications (if appropriate)

8.1 Not applicable.

Report sign off:

Corporate Director, Governance