

Cabinet Lead Reports – Full Council 13 April 2016

Councillor Michael Wilson: Cabinet Lead for Governance, Logistics and HR

Legal Services

A new Head of Legal Services, Abe Ezekiel, has been recruited. Abe joined us on the 4th April 2016.

Alex Kirk, a new assistant solicitor joined the Team on the 14th March 2016 and is settling in well.

Democratic Services

The Democratic Services Team are currently working on a member development plan for the new year which will be implemented soon after the May elections. This Development Plan includes Planning Training, Licensing Training, Overview and Scrutiny Training as well as other key areas that effect Local Authority Conduct and Business.

The purpose of the Member Development Plan is to provide Councillors with the skills and knowledge required to successfully and effectively execute their roles and responsibilities as Elected Members. The Member Development Plan will also incorporate a series of Induction sessions that will equip newly elected Councillors with the skills they require. All Councillors, both new and established are encouraged to attend as many training and refresher courses as possible.

As part of this, Democratic Services are working to achieve charter accreditation through the South East Employers 'Charter for Elected Member Development' commencing in the next municipal year. The Charter offers a structured framework for member-led training and development programme and would be a key indicator of the Council's commitment to developing its Councillors. I would be looking to establish a Councillor Development Panel in 2016/17 to take this work forward.

The Democratic Services Team are also currently compiling a report on member representation on Outside Bodies. This report includes details of the meetings that Councillors attend, the roles they carry out and the interests that the Council has in these organisations. The aim of the report is to inform the appointments of members to Outside Bodies in the next municipal year. Members are encouraged to provide details to the Democratic Services Team of the meetings they have attended of their respective Outside Body Appointments.

I am currently reviewing the Council's Overview and Scrutiny function with a view to developing more robust project planning and a performance-based

approach. The aim of this is to ensure the methodology adopted by the Panels is more consistent, that there is more communication between Panels, Cabinet Leads and relevant officers and clear links can be demonstrated between the work of the Scrutiny Board and the Council's Corporate Strategy and Service Business Plans.

Elections

The Electoral Services Team has been very busy this year. As well as chasing non responders from the Canvass, we have also carried out the annual postal vote identifier refresh and held a By-election in the Bondfields ward. We have also appointed a new part time member of staff. The arrangements for the elections on 5 May and now the Referendum on 23 June are well under way.

Plaza (operational)

Transport & Implementation Team

Team moved from Southmoor Offices First Floor to Plaza A Block ground floor on 29/03/2016. This move was required due to the loss of flexible workspace at Southmoor caused by the Norse contract IT not being on the same network and further impacted by the growth of Coastal Team.

Kingdom

Kingdom were required to vacate the Portacabin at the Southmoor site due to the Norse contract. As HBC supply accommodation as part of the contract with Kingdom, the contractors have been relocated to the Plaza A134. This office does not have access behind the access control doors.

Traffic & Parking

Last of the team moved from Plaza, A Block, ground floor to Penns Place, South Block, ground floor on 04/04/2016. This was part of the agreement between Havant Borough Council and EHDC to supply Parking Services from the Penns site.