

## **Cabinet Lead Reports – Full Council 29 March 2017**

### **Councillor Michael Wilson: Cabinet Lead for Governance and Organisational Development**

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#### **Democratic Services**

Democratic Services have continued their work in supporting the new streamlined processes for the Scrutiny function. Recommendations from reviews on Independent Sheltered Housing, the EHDC / HBC Partnership and the transfer of IT Services to the Five Councils Contract have now been agreed by Cabinet. The Budget scrutiny process has also been endorsed by the Leader as part of the Budget Speech. Reviews on the Troubled Families Programme and the Provision for Beach Huts are nearing completion.

Topics that are currently being scrutinised include the provision of public toilets in the Borough, a review of the Economic Development service, a review of the Assets of Community Value Policy, a review of the Standing Orders in the Constitution relating to meetings and Taxi Licensing Policy. Councillors who wish to take part in any of these reviews are encouraged to speak to Democratic Services.

The Councillor Development Panel is making good progress in working towards accreditation under the South East Employers Charter for Elected Member Development. The initial self-assessment form and action plan for the Charter have been submitted to South East Employers and we have received very positive feedback in relation to the Council's proactive approach in relation to member development. The Panel will be building on the work it has done to date by implementing the activities identified within the action plan.

The Panel is also taking a lead role in the production of the Corporate Training Programme for 2017/2018. This follows the very positive response from Councillors to the training needs analysis survey carried out earlier this year. From this, the Panel have identified topics such as social media, local government finance and socio-demographic profiles of the Borough as areas for further development and are populating a schedule of training sessions to cover these and other training priorities identified by Councillors. The Panel will continue to review Councillors' collective and individual development requirements as it takes forward the training programme into the forthcoming municipal year.