

## Appendix 2a: Selection of Comments – Councillor Feedback

- Overall my first impressions have been that the Council and Staff are all very professional, helpful and very competent.
- Firstly I would like to complement the team on the Induction pack and process. I wish that it would have been available when I was first elected. Looking back there was no information and it took months to find out what was going on, so this is a vast improvement.
- Can't we make taking up role of Councillor being dependent on completing a full induction programme? It is important that all Councillors are fully conversant with the requirements and that we have all been made aware of the same information.
- I think the Induction classes I attended were poorly attended and I hear that others were also not well supported for whichever reason. I think it is time to explore on line modules such as school governors have to complete and to pitch future modules for 2 levels, newly elected, returning cllrs. I supported the Induction programme because I could revise, and meet new members we were all encouraged to support this programme.
- I thought the Induction was much improved on past programmes but I think we have to explore on line modules to capture greater numbers
- nominating someone from the council for the new councillors for them to phone if they require help and I would like to thank you for the help you gave me.
- It was all very carefully constructed, especially the choices of dates and times for attendance.
- It offered a comprehensive programme, to enable understanding of the structure of the Council and its responsibilities to the community.
- Generally speaking the sessions were well run and very informative, yes legislation, rules, procedures etc..can be repetitive and difficult to understand without the background knowledge provided. However , the way it is delivered makes a difference and can honestly say All Officers and Staff came across in a professional manner in their presentations.
- It was good to refresh my memory, after a while of doing the work.
- The sessions I attended were of a uniformly high standard with the speakers' commitment and passion for their subject being very clear. I was delighted to have attended and indeed to have learned from each and every one.
- I was very pleased to have received details of the Induction Programme as part of the candidates pack. It was reassuring that to know that we would not just be thrown in at the deep end.

- I believe that the session on the structure of the Council and nature of the committees should have been held at the beginning. A compulsory session on registration day? This would have helped when we were asked by the group on which committees we were interested in serving on. I also think there is a need for two further sessions:
  - \*The nature of Council papers. The protocol of questions and motions to Council.
  - \*A session on scrutiny of Council Finances
- If I had been a new councillor I would have liked the 5:30 sessions to start at 6:00
- The same returning councillors who usually attend training turned up for all the induction training. This was helpful to new councillors as we could give examples of our personal experience. Some councillors did not attend the induction sessions and at least one of them has never attended any training sessions as far as I am aware. This means that they are not as well-informed as those councillors who attend.
- other committees should have a requirement of training so that those councillors who do not attend would have an incentive to do so, if they wanted to sit on a particular committee. E.g. Commercial Training to sit on Prosperous Communities.
- it was not suitable for a mixed attendance of new & old, perhaps it would have been better to split it into a combined sessions for both followed by a specific questions and answers for the new people and of course open to those returners who wanted to stay.
- The quality of the content and delivery varied markedly between the different sessions - one of the early sessions was very poor and really put me off wanting to attend other sessions, however the session on safeguarding was excellent
- An excellent introduction for new councillors, not too many councils would have taken the trouble that officers did. Well done!