## SUPPORTING COUNCILLORS TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY COUNCILLOR INDUCTION/REFRESHER PROGRAMME 2017

## **Dear Councillor**

Congratulations on your election to Carmarthenshire County Council.

As a Councillor you have a number of important roles and responsibilities to discharge. Perhaps you are thinking:-

"What could happen if......

I'm not sure of my legal or ethical responsibilities?
I don't know who to contact about a particular issue
I'm asked to contribute to a meeting?
I'm asked about the performance of the Council?
I'm not sure how the Council makes decisions?
I'm not sure which department does what?
I'm asked to sit on a committee?"

All these questions and more will be answered by Carmarthenshire's Councillor Induction/Refresher Programme, and to ensure we're covering the right topics in the programme officers have worked closely with group leaders to develop it.

The programme, designed primarily for new Councillors but also open to re-elected Councillors, aims to give you information and advice to make your role as a Councillor as effective and rewarding as possible in the early days and beyond. The comprehensive programme is delivered to fit your busy schedule and to provide you with sufficient knowledge and understanding to get you off to a good start as a serving Councillor for Carmarthenshire County Council.

I wish you all the best in your new role and please remember that the officers of the Council are here to help you fulfil this role.

## **Mark James**

**Chief Executive** 

Module Title	Day	Date	AM	PM
Introduction to Carmarthenshire County Council & Launch of Induction Programme [All Members]	Thursday	11 <sup>th</sup> May		•
ICT Induction and equipment (All Members)	Friday	12 <sup>th</sup> May	All [	Day
Code of Conduct, Ethics, Standards, Legal Duties and Responsibilities (All Members)	Monday	15 <sup>th</sup> May	All [	Day
Local Government Finance including budgetary and treasury management (All Members)	Wednesday	17 <sup>th</sup> May	All [	Day
Familiarisation Tour of the West of the County for Newly Elected Members To include	Friday	19 <sup>th</sup> May	All D	Day
Familiarisation Tour of the East of the County for Newly Elected Members To include	Tuesday	23 <sup>rd</sup> May	All C	Day
Executive Board Media Training (All Members)	Thursday	25 <sup>th</sup> May	All	Day
Members of the Planning Committee (Panel Members)	Friday	26 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>*</b>	
Members of the Planning Committee (Panel Members)	Wednesday	31 <sup>st</sup> May		<b>*</b>
Members of the Standards Committee (Panel Members)	Friday	9 <sup>th</sup> June	•	

Module Title	Day	Date	AM	PM
Planning for non-planning members (All Members)	Monday	12 <sup>th</sup> June	All [	Day
Appointments, appeals and interview skills (Panel Members)	Thursday	15 <sup>th</sup> June	All [	Day
Members of the Licensing Committee (Hackney Carriage etc) (Panel Members)	Friday	16 <sup>th</sup> June	All [	Day
Members of the Licensing Committee (Licensing Act & Gambling) (Panel Members)	Monday	20 <sup>th</sup> June	All [	Day
Council Policy Framework Equalities and Diversity; Welsh Language; Sustainability [All Members]	Wednesday	21 <sup>st</sup> June	All [	Day
Scrutiny in Carmarthenshire Including Performance Management [All Members]	Friday	23 <sup>rd</sup> June	All [	Day
Members of the Audit Committee (Panel Members)	Friday	7 <sup>th</sup> July	All [	Day
Corporate Parenting (All Members)	Friday	21 <sup>st</sup> July	•	
Decisions for Future Generations (Well-being of Future Generations Act) (All Members)	Friday	21 <sup>st</sup> July		<b>*</b>
Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act (All Members)	Monday	4 <sup>th</sup> Sept	•	

Module Title	Day	Date	AM	PM
Safeguarding (All Members)	Monday	4 <sup>th</sup> Sept		•
Scrutiny Chairing & Chairing Skills (committee and meeting management) (All Chairs)	Wednesday	13 <sup>th</sup> Sept	All	Day
Data Management & Freedom of Information (All Members)	Friday	22 <sup>nd</sup> Sept	All	Day
Health & Safety to include Corporate Manslaughter (All Members)	Thursday	28 <sup>th</sup> Sept	•	
Executive Board Development (Cabinet Members)	Friday	6 <sup>th</sup> October	All	Day
Welsh Local Government (WLGA) Regional Workshop (Halliwell Centre, Carmarthen)	Friday	13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	All	Day
Community Leadership and Casework (All Members)	Friday	20 <sup>th</sup> Oct	All	Day
Education Consortia – Their Work (All Members)	Tuesday	24 <sup>th</sup> Oct	All	Day
Policy, Services & Legislative Requirements Update (All Members)	Monday	6 <sup>th</sup> Nov	All	Day

## **PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS**

- Session venues are as described in the programme. Attendance will qualify as an approved duty for the payment of expenses.
- Unless otherwise stated session timings are as follows:
  - a.m. 10.00 12:30
  - p.m. 2:00 4:30
- Additional evening sessions may be organised depending on demand due to work/caring commitments of new Councillors.
- All materials presented to Councillors will be bi-lingual with simultaneous translation at every session. While the 'lead' facilitator at each session will not necessarily be bi-lingual at least one Welsh speaking officer will be present.
- A Democratic Services Officer will be present at all sessions to respond to general support queries and will ensure attendance registers and evaluation forms are completed.
- Car parking is available at or near all venues.
- ♦ A loop system will be available at all sessions.
- If you have any queries with regard to this programme or are unable to attend sessions as planned please contact the Democratic Services Team on (01267) 224028.

If you would require a large print or an electronic version of this document please contact the Democratic Services Team.

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Thursday, 11 May 13:30 – 16:00	Introduction to Carmarthenshire County Council & Launch of Induction Programme	Mark James Chief Executive
Venue TBC	Objectives:  To outline the main functions of the Council and of the responsibilities	Other Speakers TBC
	of each service;  To provide you with an understanding of the principal strategies and the	
	vision for service delivery for Carmarthenshire.	
	To receive detailed information on the arrangements for the Induction/Refresher Programme for Councillors.	
	The afternoon will consist of:-	
	Presentation by Chief Executive;	
	Presentation from ????	
	An introduction to the Councillor Induction/Refresher Programme;	
	Time to browse the departmental 'stands' providing comprehensive information on the work of individual directorates;	
	An opportunity, over refreshments, to network with other Councillors and officers.	
		Thursday, 11 May

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Monday, 15 May	Ethics, Standards, Legal Duties and Responsibilities (Note: All Members to Attend)	Head of Administration and
10:00 - 12:30		Law
V TDC	Objectives:	
Venue TBC	To provide Councillors with the knowledge and understanding of the statutory and ethical framework within which they are obliged to operate to make decisions which are based only on merit and the public interest.	Linda Rees Jones
	Specifically knowledge and understanding in the following areas:	
	The ethical and statutory background;	
	The new local code of conduct;	
	Seneral code provisions;	
	Personal and prejudicial Interests;	
	Declarations and dispensations;	
	Advice and enforcement roles;	
	Breach of the code-potential outcomes.	

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Wednesday, 17 May	Local Government Finance including budgetary and treasury management	Head of Finance
10.00-16.30	Objectives:	Chris Moore
Venue TBC	<ul> <li>To provide an overview of local government finances – Where do they come from? What are they spent on? And who is responsible for them?</li> <li>To provide an overview of the statutory background and the regulatory</li> </ul>	
	framework within which finances are governed;	
	To provide an introduction to local government finance as a key to understanding its central role in both policy making and scrutiny;	
	To provide an overview of the commonly used terms in local government finance and the wider resourcing of local government;	
	To provide an overview of the Housing Benefit system.	

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Friday 19 May All Day	Familiarisation Tour of the West of the County for Newly Elected Members To include	ТВС
Session will start from County Hall, Carmarthen	Objectives:  In company with Councillors and officers to participate in a tour of West Carmarthenshire designed to deliver an insight into the range of services provided by the authority by visiting a number of key service locations. The tour will include lunch and will be a good opportunity to meet with colleagues in an informal setting and to see at firsthand how services are provided	

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Tuesday 23 May All Day	Familiarisation Tour of the East of the County for Newly Elected Members To include	ТВС
Session will start from County Hall, Carmarthen	Objectives:	

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Friday 26 May	Executive Board Media Training	Media & Marketing Manager
	Objectives:  The types of social media available and how they might be used	Deina Hockenhull

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Tuesday, 6 June 10.00-12.30  Wednesday, 7 June 2.00-4.30  Both sessions will be held in:	<ul> <li>Members of the Planning Committee</li> <li>There will be two separate sessions covering different subjects.:-</li> <li>Objectives:</li> <li>Within the context of the terms of reference of the Planning Committee to enable Councillors on these committees to gain an understanding of the following</li> <li>Introduction to the planning system for Councillors;</li> <li>Explanation of the decision making process;</li> <li>Code of Conduct for Councillors in Planning Matters and the Protocol re Representations to the County Council on Planning Applications;</li> <li>The possibilities and limitations of Planning Agreements and conditions;</li> <li>The role of the local Councillor in the process;</li> <li>Enforcement: an overview for Councillors;</li> <li>Background to the Development Plan: Unitary Development Plan &amp; Local Development Plan;</li> <li>Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings - explanation of additional considerations;</li> <li>Biodiversity.</li> </ul>	Head of Planning Llinos Quelch

Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Members of the Standards Committee	твс
Objectives:	
♦ Understanding of the law and constitution in relation to conduct	
	Members of the Standards Committee  Objectives:

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Monday, 12 June	Planning for non-planning members	Head of Planning
	Objectives TBC	Llinos Quelch

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Thursday, 15 June	Appeals Committee Training Objectives:	<b>Linda Rees Jones</b> Head of Administration & Law
	<ul> <li>◇ To gain an understanding of the role of the Appeals Committee in relation to both the Council's Disciplinary process</li> <li>◇ To gain an understanding of the Council's Disciplinary Policy and Procedure;</li> <li>◇ Provide an overview of the remit/terms of reference of the Appeals Committee and the procedures of the Committee;</li> <li>◇ Provide an overview of Employment law and practice as it relates to the work of the Appeals Committee.</li> <li>◇ Appointments and Interview Skills for Appointments Committees</li> </ul>	Paul Thomas Assistant Chief Executive PMP

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Friday, 16 June	Members of the Licensing Committee (Hackney Carriage etc)	Sue Watts Commercial Services
10.00-4.00	Objectives:	Manager
Chamber & Ante Room, 3 Spilman Street, Carmarthen	<ul> <li>Introduction to the relevant legislation and guidance for Councillors;</li> <li>Explanation of the decision making process;</li> <li>Code of Conduct for Councillors in Licensing Matters and the Protocol re Representations to the County Council on Licensing Applications;</li> </ul>	Robert Edgecombe Legal Services Manager
	<ul> <li>The role of the local Councillor in the process;</li> <li>Enforcement: an overview for Councillors.</li> </ul>	Emyr Jones Principal Licensing Officer

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Tuesday, 20 June	Members of the Licensing Committee (Licensing & Gambling Acts)	Sue Watts Commercial Services
10.00-4.00	Objectives:	Manager
Chamber & Ante Room, 3 Spilman Street, Carmarthen	<ul> <li>Introduction to the Licensing Act for Councillors;</li> <li>Explanation of the decision making process;</li> <li>Code of Conduct for Councillors in Licensing Matters and the Protocol re Representations to the County Council on Licensing Applications;</li> <li>An overview of the Licensing and Gambling Policies;</li> </ul>	Robert Edgecombe Legal Services Manager  Emyr Jones
	<ul> <li>The role of the local Councillor in the process;</li> <li>Enforcement: an overview for Councillors.</li> </ul>	Principal Licensing Officer

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Wednesday, 21 June 10:00 – 12:30	Council Policy Framework  To provide a general overview of the function and support available through the Council's Corporate Policy Team with a specific focus on policy requirements and duties in relation to:  • Equalities and Diversity; • Welsh Language; and • Sustainable Development.  Equalities and Diversity Objectives:  • To provide Elected Councillors with an introduction to and raise awareness of equality and diversity arrangements and duties within Local Government in Wales; • To outline the legal requirements and define the UK wide identified protected characteristics; • To give an overview of Carmarthenshire County Council's Strategic Equality Plan and the duties placed on the Authority in terms of its role as an employer, as a provider of services and with the wider community; • To explain a Councillor's individual role in promoting equality and diversity within the local authority and engage with the community they represent.	Gwyneth Ayres Partnership Officer Llinos Evans Policy & Partnership Officer

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
	Council Policy Framework (Cont.)  Equalities and Diversity; Welsh Language; Sustainable Development.	
	<ul> <li>Welsh Language Objectives:</li> <li></li></ul>	
	Sustainable Development Objectives:	
	<ul> <li>To provide Elected Councillors with an introduction to sustainable development;</li> <li>To outline the Council's duties and priorities around sustainable development;</li> <li>To outline what sustainable development means for us in Carmarthenshire and how we can make a difference within the work of the Council and with our communities.</li> </ul>	

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Friday, 23 June	Scrutiny in Carmarthenshire Including Performance Management Objectives:	Democratic Services Manager
	To gain an understanding of	Gaynor Morgan

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Friday, 7 July	Members of the Audit Committee	Head of Finance
	Objectives:	Chris Moore
	Ability to scrutinise financial performance	
	<ul> <li>An understanding of Risk Management</li> <li>An understanding of internal and external audit arrangements</li> </ul>	
	An understanding of the relative roles of audit and scrutiny.	

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Friday, 21 July	Corporate Parenting	Service Manager –
10.0-12.30	Clarity on Welsh Government guidance for Councillors on how to be good Corporate Parent	Corporate Parenting
	Objectives	
	<ul> <li>To ensure Councillors are aware of their corporate parenting responsibilities</li> <li>To familiarise Councillors with Carmarthenshire's Corporate Parenting Strategy</li> <li>To provide an overview of the performance and challenges for the council in this area</li> <li>To introduce Councillors to the Corporate Parenting Team and the role of the Corporate Parenting Panel</li> <li>To provide an indication of the numbers of looked after children and care leavers</li> <li>To ensure Councillors are familiar with specific roles and duties</li> </ul>	Bethan James

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Friday, 21 July	Decisions for Future Generations (Well-being of Future Generations Act)	Economic Development
2.00-4.30	Introduction:-	Manager
	A. The sustainable development principle	
	B. The 5 ways of working	
	C. The 7 national goals	Helen Morgan
	Our Duties as a public body:-	
	<ol> <li>Set and publish well-being objectives</li> </ol>	
	2. Take all reasonable steps to meet those objectives	
	3. Publish a statement about well-being objectives	
	4. Publish an annual report of progress	

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Monday, 4 September	Safeguarding & Violence Against Women & Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Act	Director of Communities
10 00 12 20	To provide members an awareness of:	Jake Morgan
10.00-12.30	<ul> <li>Safeguarding</li> <li>Being able to identify types, signs and symptoms of abuse</li> <li>Have the confidence to act on concerns, suspicions and observations regarding abuse and unsafe practice</li> <li>Have an understanding of who is at risk</li> <li>Explore policy and procedures to Safeguard</li> <li>Updated in line with the Social Services Well-being (Wales) Act</li> <li>Violence Against Women &amp; Domestic Abuse &amp; Sexual Violence Act</li> <li>What is VAWDASV act- background &amp; context in Wales * Public service leadership, building a culture &amp; infrastructure</li> <li>Who is affected?</li> <li>How do you recognise violence against women, domestic abuse &amp; sexual violence</li> <li>What can be done?- Where can people get help?</li> </ul>	Delivered by SCDWP

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Monday, 4 September	Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act	Director of Communities
2.00-4.30	Objectives:	Jake Morgan
2.00-4.30	<ul> <li>Be aware of the Parts and features of the Act</li> <li>Understand the aims and ethos of the Act</li> <li>Understand the implications and the duty to promote well-being</li> <li>Explore a range of practical approaches to prevent and reduce the need for care and support of people in the local area</li> <li>Understand the critical role of information, advice and assistance</li> <li>Reflect on the implications of the Act for them and Social Services</li> </ul>	Delivered by SCDWP

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Wednesday,	An Introduction to Chairing Skills.	WLGA
13 September	An informal workshop for new and returning members from the WLGA.	Sarah Titcombe
10.00-12.30	This workshop will provide members with an opportunity to:	
	<ul> <li>Review the role of the Chair both in and outside meetings</li> <li>Hear about some useful practice</li> <li>Have an opportunity to develop their individual approaches to the role</li> <li>Discuss solutions to challenging situations</li> </ul> The workshop will be very informal and interactive providing many opportunities for personal learning, discussion and reflection.	

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Wednesday,	An Introduction to Scrutiny Chairing Skills.	
13 September	An informal workshop for new and returning members from the WLGA.	
2.00-4.30	This workshop will provide members with an opportunity to:	
	<ul> <li>Review the role of the Scrutiny Chair generally as 'team leader' and meeting manager</li> <li>Hear about some useful practice in chairing scrutiny committees set within the effective scrutiny context</li> <li>Have an opportunity to develop their individual approaches to the role</li> <li>Discuss solutions to challenging situations</li> </ul>	
	The workshop will be very informal and interactive providing many opportunities for personal learning, discussion and reflection.	

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Friday, 22 September	Data Management & Freedom of Information	TBC
обрасинос.	Objectives:	
	<ul> <li>How to treat information securely to comply with legislation and our policies.</li> <li>Why data protection is important</li> <li>How personal information is defined</li> <li>Appropriate date security measures</li> <li>An understanding of the Data Protection Act and how its 8 core principles apply to our work.</li> <li>A council and its staff have a duty to protect data and treat information securely.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Explain what Freedom of Information is</li> <li>Explain why FOI was introduced</li> <li>Describe the impact of FOI on local authorities and the public.</li> </ul>	

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Thursday, 28 September	Module Title/Objectives of Session  Health & Safety (including Corporate Manslaughter)  Objectives:  The Health & Safety roles and responsibilities of Councillors' both within the Authority and the wider community;  The legislative, economic and moral implications of Councillors' decisions as they may relate to health and safety;  How Carmarthenshire County Council manages its risks.	Employee Wellbeing Manager Heidi Font  Senior Business Partner (Working Safely) Eddie Cummins

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Friday, 6 October	Executive Board Development  Objectives TBC	TBC

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Friday, 13 October  Halliwell Centre, Trinity College Carmarthen	Welsh Local Government (WLGA) Regional Workshop  To include:  Cabinet Secretary Mark Drakeford AM Future Generations Commissioner Sophie Howe WLGA Chief Executive Steve Thomas Sessions on: Key behaviours for successful Councillors Digital Councillors	WLGA

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Friday, 20 October	Community Leadership and Casework  Objectives:  Knowledge of community groups and leaders Understanding of community issues and concerns Ability to seek the views of all relevant parties. Understanding of and ability to arrange and publicise opportunities to discuss casework with the public Ability to use case management techniques and software and to monitor and communicate progress.	TBC

Date/Venue	Module Title/Objectives of Session	Contributors
Tuesday, 24 October	Education Consortia – Their Work  Objectives TBC	Head of School Effectiveness Andi Morgan