

# County Council



## MEMBER DEVELOPMENT

### MEMBER BRIEFINGS

Member briefings are a valuable opportunity to explore a particular issue, a new policy or strategy direction, or other service area developments. They provide an informal space for questions, suggestions and ensure Members are fully informed.

These briefings have become increasingly popular with Officers providing them with the opportunity to explore an issue or area of the service within an informal setting. It provides an informal space for questions, suggestions and most importantly ensures Members are fully informed.

Democratic Services has created a new online form for officers to complete when wanting to arrange a briefing to ensure they are appropriate, outcomes of the session have been identified, ensuring Cabinet Member sign off and a notice given to those attending. Please find the new intranet page for officers here <https://intranet.buckscc.gov.uk/how-do-i/member-services/think-councillor/member-briefing/>

Dates for upcoming briefings will be confirmed shortly. Invites to all Member briefings will be sent out electronically from the Democratic Services calendar, please respond accordingly. Please don't forget to check Member Zone for all updates <https://intranet.buckscc.gov.uk/member-zone/training-and-resources/member-briefings-dates-and-presentations/>

### WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP – A NEW TRAINING SESSION

'Working with Members' training saw a new twist last month. Claire Hawkes, Head of Policy and Democratic Services and Cllr David Martin refreshed the course, introducing a new, practical and participative session, fast paced and full of useful hints and tips.

The first of the new officer training sessions was held and was a success; fully subscribed, with participants from right across the Council. The new focused session was well received and participants all thought it well worth attending. Further sessions have been timetabled.

Claire and David led an interactive session on:

- understanding more about who's who in the Council
- exploring the Member's perspective – what the role is really about
- practical advice on collaborative and effective working relationships

### MEMBER DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP

The next Member Development Working Group is on 12 December. The group will be discussing feedback from the training and ideas for improved communications on explaining the diverse Member role, decisions taken events and meetings.

### CONTACT US

You can contact Democratic Services via email: [democracy@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@buckscc.gov.uk) or telephone: 01296 382343.