

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Member Training and Development Panel
2.	Date:	Thursday 30th September 2010
3.	Title:	Sub- Regional Member Network
4.	Programme Area:	Chief Executive

5. Summary

Rotherham has, in the recent past been very successful in leading on member development across the sub-region. Collaborative working has provided opportunities to access funding to support member development. Given the changing landscape arising from the coalition government's programme it is timely to consider re-establishing the sub-regional member network with a view to shared learning and development and joint bids for funding to support member development. In addition the South Yorkshire Joint Secretariat wishes to be part of any South Yorkshire member development activity where appropriate.

6. Recommendations

Members are asked to consider making contact with the local authorities in South Yorkshire with a view to re-establishing the sub-regional member development network.

7. Proposals and Details:

1. The demands now placed on elected members have never been greater; members work in a constantly changing environment and have roles that are bigger and more diverse than ever before, stakeholder expectations are high and resources are diminished, but good effective members are the foundation for all improvement.
2. Successful local government requires sound political and managerial leadership. As a sub-region it is vital that we strengthen the role and effectiveness of our councillors. We have to ensure that councillors are provided with good opportunities to develop their skills and knowledge and assist them in fulfilling their role as community leaders.
3. Rotherham has worked successfully with the sub-regional authorities in accessing and utilising funding from capacity building resources. Importantly this has provided opportunities for relationship building and joint working. Local Government Yorkshire and the Humber (LGYH) have allocated funding for South Yorkshire to support member development.

8. Finance

£3,000 is available to spend across the sub-region.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Missed opportunity for joint working and shared learning

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The council's supports members in respect of training and development.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

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