

# Member Resource Booklet

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**2023/27**



Wirral Council is committed to the development of our staff and Members. This document showcases a variety of development opportunities for Members to provide them with the necessary tools and personal development to be confident and equipped within their role.

Research shows that the best way of learning is through a blended approach which includes formal workshops, online modules, distance learning, peer support and feedback. Within this document you will find a range of blended material to select from.

This document provides general guidance on support available.. If you would like to attend training that involves any associated costs, please contact the Member support team in the first instance and it will then be considered by members of the Members Support Steering Group.

## FLO

Flo is the Council's [eLearning platform](#) and makes it easier than ever to develop your skills, knowledge and experience, with supercharged search and artificial intelligence. You can consume, create and share a wide variety of content, on any device and at any time that suits you. And it isn't just e-learning – Flo gives you access to a wide range of content, both internally and externally, including courses, videos, podcasts, blogs and articles. Flo learns what you're interested in and will recommend relevant learning content based on your interests, your skills, your role and people you follow.

You can find out more by watching this video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_i\\_e5sED72M%20](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_i_e5sED72M%20)

## COUNCILLOR HUB

[The LGA Councillor Hub](#) provides a diverse range of support to elected members before and after election.

## LGA POLITICAL LEADERSHIP RESOURCES

This provides [online support](#) through webinars, e-learning and digital guidebooks on a number of subject matters.



## COUNCILLOR E-LEARNING PLATFORM

[This platform](#) provides a number of online modules ranging from licensing and regulation and how to hold Council meetings online, to soft skills of leadership such as community engagement and leadership and handling intimidation.



## CENTRE FOR GOVERNANCE AND SCRUTINY

The [cfGS](#) have an ongoing series of webinars covering a variety of topics, as well as scrutiny practitioners guidance. Recent webinars have focused on the Covid-19 emergency response and climate change.



## LOCAL DEMOCRACY RESEARCH CENTRE

The [LGIU](#) offer a number of workshops that might be beneficial to you as a Member. These range from soft skills, such as effective speechmaking to, to Overview and Scrutiny and Community Engagement.



## Coaching and Mentoring for Members

Mentoring and Coaching can be effective approaches to development. Mentoring is about helping and offering advice, whilst coaching is the process of being asked questions for you to think and reflect to change behaviour. You can be coached at the same time as being mentored as both come with different points of view. Both are really powerful tools and the LGA provides an opportunity to be involved with both. One-to-one leadership development can be arranged through the LGA. Councillors in Leadership Positions are able to access one-to-one Leadership Academy Facilitators

## USEFUL READING

[The 21st Century Councillor](#) research paper undertaken by the University of Birmingham in collaboration with North West Employers reflects on the roles that Councillors are playing, or recognise that they will need to be playing within their organisations and localities



## NEW MEMBER INDUCTION PROGRAMME 2023 – 2027

New members will be given an induction guide upon their election in 2023. This can also be made available on request to members elected before 2023



## WIRRAL COUNCIL CONSTITUTION

[Wirral Council's Constitution](#) provides you with the background and instructions in relation to:



- How the council operates
- How decisions are made
- The procedures that are to be followed to ensure that the above are efficient, transparent and accountable to local people.

## HOW TO BOOK A TRAINING COURSE

If there is a particular training course you would like to attend please send details to: [membersupport@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:membersupport@wirral.gov.uk). If there is a cost involved please set out a brief explanation as to why you will benefit from undertaking the training. This will then need to be approved by members of the Members Support Steering Group.