

Report to the Overview and Scrutiny Review Task and Finish Panel



Report of: Assistant to the Chief Executive

Date of meeting: **25 March 2013**

Subject: Overview and Scrutiny – Training 2013/14

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Committee Secretary: Adrian Hendry (01992 564246)

Recommendations:

(1) To consider training requirements for the new council year in respect of Overview and Scrutiny including:

- (a) appointment of an external trainer and**
- (b) the topics which should be covered in the training arrangements.**

(2) To consider consultation on the training to be provided.

Report:

1. Introduction

1.1 At previous stages of the OSC Review, members have raised the issue of training. This report is designed to allow members to express their views about the kind of training that needs to be undertaken in the light of their findings on this review.

2. Training Proposals

2.1 Attached to this report is a training prospectus aimed at Overview and Scrutiny from the training agency that has been used previously in joint training sessions with Harlow Council. The Panel is asked to consider the list and indicate which items should be included. Budgets are available from 1 April 2013 to undertake this training and it is suggested that a course or courses should be held after the Annual Council meeting. It is helpful that there are no District Council elections in May 2013 so that District Council membership will be largely unchanged in the new year.

2.2 The opportunities for training probably exist independently of the recommendations from the review and may help to deal with the lack of engagement by many members in the OS process on which the panel has commented previously.

3. Consultation

3.1 The Panel are asked whether they wish to consult members of the Council and officers more widely on the topics to be covered in the training to be arranged.