

Committee(s): Planning and Transportation Committee – For Information	Dated: 07/03/2023
Subject: P&T Member Training Programme	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	The planning system supports all outcomes of the Corporate Plan.
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	No
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	N/A
Report of: Juliemma McLoughlin, Executive Director of Environment	For Information
Report author: Rob McNicol, Environment Department	

Summary

This report sets out a series of training opportunities for Members of the Planning and Transportation Committee to ensure members have access to the most up to date information on key aspects of the planning system and transportation issues. The training opportunities will be quarterly, recorded and circulated in advance, and delivered through a mixture of in-house and external expertise.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- Example: Note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. During 2021, a programme of member training was undertaken covering the following topics:

- Culture
- Daylight and sunlight
- Healthy streets

- Material planning considerations
 - Strategic views
 - Sustainability
 - The planning system
2. These sessions were delivered online and recorded; they remain available in the Member training SharePoint site (link available internally on request).
 3. Members have requested further training opportunities so that new issues can be explored and complex topics unpacked, to ensure continued high quality decision-making on strategic planning and transportation issues.

Proposals

4. It is proposed that training opportunities are run as a combination of pre-recorded videos and hybrid (in person and online) Q&A sessions. The Q&A sessions will be held on a broadly quarterly basis, on the morning of Planning and Transportation Committee meetings. The training videos will be sent a month in advance.
5. Training will be delivered by officers as well as through expertise from external partners who can provide additional specialist insight and advice.
6. It is proposed to cover the following topics over the coming two years:
 - 2023/24
 - Material planning considerations
 - Fire safety
 - Daylight and sunlight
 - Whole lifecycle carbon and sustainability
 - The legal framework for planning following the Levelling Up, Regeneration and Planning Bill and wider changes to the planning system
 - 2024/25
 - Thermal comfort and wind modelling
 - Equality and inclusion in the built environment and public realm
 - Highways duties and transport modelling
 - Strategic views, heritage and tall buildings
 - Viability
7. The first Q&A will be organised for the day of the Planning and Transportation Committee in May 2023, with the training material sent out a month in advance.
8. As well as the training opportunities set out above, when policy approaches are developed for the City Plan, Transport Strategy, planning guidance or other documents that the City Corporation develops, members will have the opportunity to explore these with officers as part of the relevant committee and sub-committee meetings.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

Strategic implications – The Member training proposed will assist Members of the Planning and Transportation Committee in exercising their duties to implement the City Plan and Transport Strategy through decision making. These strategies are key to delivering the City of London Corporation’s Corporate Plan as well as legislative obligations and national policy requirements.

Financial implications – Training will be provided by officers in-house alongside external expertise. From previous experience, external organisations are frequently willing to provide these services on a *pro bono* basis to the City Corporation.

Resource implications – The development of the training programme will require officer time. By limiting training to a quarterly basis, the resource implications should not unduly impede on the progress of key strategies and other workstreams.

Legal implications – None.

Risk implications – None.

Equalities implications – Training will include a session on equality and inclusion in the public realm and built environment.

Climate implications – Training will include a session exploring embodied carbon and wider sustainability objectives related to the planning system.

Security implications – None.

Conclusion

9. This paper outlines a proposed series of training opportunities for members of the Planning and Transportation Committee, covering a broad range of current and complex issues related to the work of the committee. Members are asked to note the report.

Appendices

- None

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