



Andover Town Council

To **note** an update on Councillors Training.

Item
No.
10

Produced for: Full Council

By: Town Clerk

Date of Report: 13 Feb 2024

Background:

Arranging training for Councillors has been very difficult to achieve.

Two sessions have now been organised.

As of the date of sending the agenda, the following Councillors have responded to training session invitations as below.

Calendar Invite sent to all councillors on 13th February.

TRAINING DATE:	8 th April, pm			Training provider:				Kim Bedford - provided by HALC								
Attending	KB	JC	MF	LG	TG	SH	JH	KH	RH	RK	MM	RM	HN	ER	JS	SW
Yes (7)	✓		✓			✓	✓					✓	✓	✓		
No																
Maybe																
unknown (9)		✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓

Calendar Invite sent to all councillors on 30th January.

TRAINING DATE:	16 th March am			Training provider:				Council's Auditor - Andy Beams								
Attending	KB	JC	MF	LG	TG	SH	JH	KH	RH	RK	MM	RM	HN	ER	JS	SW
Yes (8)	✓		✓			✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓		
No (2)					✓				✓							
Maybe (1)																✓
unknown (5)		✓		✓				✓		✓					✓	

Previous attempts to organise training:

Agenda paper in May meeting	17 th May 2023
<p>The Council's approved auditor is able to provide Councillors and Staff with Training. It would be helpful to have the entire council trained at the same time, and a course held in Andover.</p> <p>The earliest date that Mulberry and Co have available is Saturday August 26th. Mulberry's costs would be £800 + VAT for entire Council and Staff, and would be a full day's course in a venue that Council would need to book. This can be compared to HALC's councillor training course which is £98 per person, and is 4.5 hrs long, but can be taken on zoom or face to face.</p> <p>Minute from the meeting: C038/05/23 - It was proposed by Councillor K Hughes and seconded by Councillor E Reynolds and RESOLVED: Unanimously, that:</p>	

- HALC's training costings £98.00 per person, be approved.
- That the training schedule is referred to Policy and Resources Committee for discussion and details be finalised.
- Bookings to be made through the Town Clerk.
- Staff be allowed

Following the minute below for Councillors to make bookings from the HALC training schedule through the Clerk, only two requests were received.

As a result of this, HALC were contacted on several occasions to provide bespoke group training solely for ATC. There had been significant difficulties in obtaining any dates from HALC and councillors have been copied with some of the correspondence.

The Clerk then followed up by requesting that councillors consider different training providers in order to speed up organisation of the training program.

DATE of Email:		10th Nov 2023															
Doodle poll to choose a date from options A = 8 th Feb, B = 20 th Feb, C = 27 th Feb. (all sessions during working hours.)																	
Date:	As above			Training provider:				HALC									
Replied:	KB	JC	MF	LG	TG	SH	JH	KH	RH	RK	MM	RM	HN	ER	JS	SW	
Yes (10)	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			
No reply (6)		✓		✓				✓		✓					✓	✓	

Of the 10 responses, only 5 councillors maximum could attend on any of the day choices. The Clerk considered it was not worth arranging a bespoke course for 5 out of 16 councillors.

Date of Email:		2nd Jan 2024															
Email asking Councillors preferences:																	
We have the following options:																	
1. Halc Training (Group)																	
2. Halc Training (Individual)																	
3. Mulberry (our Auditors) - 3 or 24 February or 2 or 16 March																	
4. Another auditor (if one can be found that gives training.)																	
5. SLCC webinars (by subject)																	
6. A well qualified Clerk to provide training. (someone much higher than my level.)																	
7. Ask TVBC to provide training.																	
Replied to email?	KB	JC	MF	LG	TG	SH	JH	KH	RH	RK	MM	RM	HN	ER	JS	SW	
Yes (6)	✓		✓				✓		✓				✓	✓			
No reply (10)		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	