

<b>MEETING</b>	<b>STANDARDS COMMITTEE</b>
<b>DYDDIAD</b>	<b>16 JANUARY 2012</b>
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING</b>
<b>PURPOSE</b>	<b>TO PRESENT AN UPDATE ON THE TRAINING AND SEEK AN OPINION ON THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE NEW COUNCILS</b>
<b>AUTHOR</b>	<b>DILYS PHILLIPS, MONITORING OFFICER</b>

1. The Committee approved the code of conduct training material in April 2011. A training session for County Council members followed in May 2011. It was attended by 18 members and the feedback was generally positive.
2. A small group of monitoring officers have worked with the Welsh Local Government Association to produce training materials in preparation for the new council in May 2012. The material produced builds on ideas submitted by this Committee (amongst others) and includes a general introduction to the code through the use of Powerpoint, a DVD of an interview with the Ombudsman and exercises based on those developed for training purposes last May.
3. The intention is for the training material to be distributed to all county councils and presented to members by council officers at a half day session following next May's elections.
4. Discussions have been held between an officer from One Voice Wales and the monitoring officers with a view to adapting the material for community council use. The intention is to change the exercises slightly so as to reflect the needs of the community councils and to arrange a programme of training presentations specifically for community councils across the country. Naturally, only those community councils which are members of One Voice Wales would be invited to these events.
5. As monitoring officers have a statutory responsibility over the standards of community councillors, it would be my intention to work with One Voice Wales to ensure that every community council in Gwynedd is given the opportunity to attend a Code of Conduct training session during the 12 months following the election. This would probably entail arranging additional sessions to the ones arranged by One Voice Wales but using the same training material.
6. In 2008 every member of the county council received training, but at that time the code of conduct was new. Although the guidance has been updated there will be no changes to the code in 2012. The Committee's opinion is sought as to whether an effort should be made to train all members or only to offer training to those newly elected.

### **Recommendation**

7. The Committee is requested to:
  - a) Accept the arrangements made for the Code of Conduct training of councillors following the elections of 2012.
  - b) Submit any additional ideas regarding the Code of Conduct training programme