

WICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL TRAINING PLAN 2022-23

Introduction and context:

We are required under the Welsh Government: Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021: Draft Statutory Guidance for Community and Town Councils to develop a training plan for Councillors, volunteers and staff and which must be published.

Currently all Councillors, when they join the Community Council, are required to sign an acceptance of office form and agree to abide by the Code of Conduct. They are encouraged to attend training sessions and Code of Conduct training is offered on a regular basis. It is free of charge following Local Government elections and a bursary is available for some other training. Where necessary training incurs a cost, those costs will be met by The Council.

Training providers: Training providers we have used previously include One Voice Wales, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Planning Aid Wales, and Glamorgan Voluntary Services but relevant training may be purchased from any appropriate provider. One Voice Wales is our main source of training (the Community Council is a member, so we benefit from their bursary scheme). They provide a regular schedule of training sessions which is circulated to all Councillors and Councillors select training relevant to their skills and needs. The Vale of Glamorgan Council occasionally provide training, notably Code of Conduct training following elections and training on matters such as Wellbeing and Public Service Board activities.

Our Plans: Welsh Government has indicated that they are considering making code of conduct training a requirement for all new Councillors but have not done so to date. We will promote training for Councillors and carry out an annual training needs assessment for Councillors. The Clerk will be able to book training sessions, provided funds are available within the budget, which is £200 for the year 2022/23, and will maintain a register of training attended by councillors, volunteers and staff.

Our training plan is a dynamic document and will be reviewed and updated on a regular basis.

Conway Hawkins

Clerk and Proper Officer, 20th October 2022