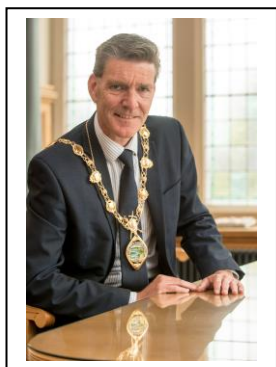




At a glance

- Charter Plus Commitment – January 2017.
- Strategic, experienced and highly committed Elected Member Development Group which leads on Member Development.
- Comprehensive three- year Member Development Programme with all training linked to strategic objectives.
- Commitment to the Personal Development Plan process – 87% participation
- Well established Local Democracy Programme with strong links and involvement from local schools.
- Proactive and systematic approach applied for evaluating the impact of Member Development – Kirkpatrick Model.
- Member Development Policy and strategy agreed by all Members and supported by the Senior Leadership Team.
- Charter Plus Awarded in April 2018 – First Council in Northern Ireland to attain status.

Benefits for Communities



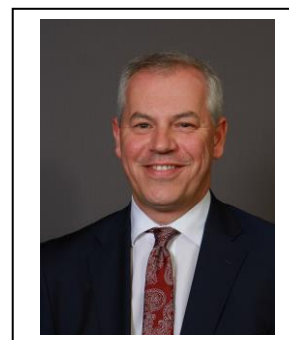
“I have seen a real change in many Members since the start of this process. Members have really benefited from the opportunity to have their say about what will best help them to serve their constituents.”

Cllr John Boyle
Mayor of Derry City and Strabane
District Council

- Increased public awareness about the role of the Council and Councillors.
- Public resources spent on Member Development more efficiently and effectively.
- Councillors have access to the knowledge and support they need to respond to constituent enquiries.
- There are strong relationships with partner organisations which informs Member development needs.

Benefits for the Council

- Member development activities are now clearly focused on the Council’s corporate priorities.
- Charter Plus status has supported achievement of the Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan and the Corporate Plan.
- The Charter Plus processes have provided an assessment of the value of Member training including evidence of Value for Money.
- The processes and procedures put in place give us a robust framework for responding to future challenges and legislative changes.



“As well as improving our services to Members and communities in the short term, the changes we have made will ensure that our Member development priorities will continue to change and adapt according to local and national political and practical priorities.”

John Kelpie
Chief Executive

Benefits for Councillors:



“The Charter Plus Process has given us an invaluable tool for ensuring our Member Development is as good as it can be. By working towards Charter Plus standards and sharing ideas with other Charter Councils we can now be sure that our Member Development is innovative, accessible and effective. As a Council we are very proud of our Member Development processes.”

Ellen Cavanagh
Lead Democratic Services and Improvement Officer
(Charter Lead Officer)

- A thorough Personal Development Plan process which accurately identifies Member learning needs and informs the subsequent development of a comprehensive Learning and Development Programme.
- A new range of more flexible development activities (including web-based learning and more choices over session dates and times) has ensured that a busy work or home life does not prevent Councillors from having the chance to access development activities.
- New systems for collecting and monitoring feedback about development opportunities mean that all Members have an opportunity to influence the type of development opportunities they are offered.

Who can I contact?

If you want to talk about the challenges and benefits of the Charter programme, please get in touch with us:

Contact name: Sharon Maxwell, Democratic Services Officer
Telephone: 02871 381304
Email: Sharon.maxwell@derrystrabane.com