

Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 28 March 2017

Communications Task Group – Update

The Communications Task Group had its last meeting and finished its work on 9 February 2017.

Councillor Capes, Lead member, reported on the results of the councillor survey the Task Group had undertaken, and next steps.

“During the work of the Task Group we discovered that whilst a number of fellow Councillors seem to encounter questions and requests from residents of their ward that they cannot answer ad hoc on a regular basis, we all seem to have found ways to get the answers and advice we need. Sources for help were tested in the survey with the result that fellow councillors and officers were mentioned most often, but all councillors seemed to get information from the intranet, bulletin and the app as well. Less councillors said they found information by electronic means but feedback to the question in the survey was that face to face training on how to find information was not met with sufficient commitment to justify a team of officers to set it up and run the course.

Instead we agreed on a written summary of all the communication tools available to members, their content and where to find them, together with a list of ‘most important’ contacts within the Council.

As next steps Dawn Morrison will update and format the contact and tool leaflets which will then be shared with all Councillors.

Although not initially part of the remit of the Task Group, it was agreed that a social media training event would be useful and timely for all councillors and this has been arranged for 30 March. We encourage all members to respond to the invite sent out by Committee Services and attend this informative training event.

The Task Group agreed that their work was completed and any remaining tasks would be finalised via email.”

Councillor S. Capes
Communications Task Group Lead member