

Members' briefing pack – 12 July 2022

Training opportunities (Memo from the Interim Monitoring Officer)

Dear All,

This is by way of a brief reminder to ask you please to put the following dates in your diaries for training to be delivered by me.

Monday 8th August at 7pm & Monday 22nd August at 7pm– **The Use of Social Media by Councillors – “a friend and / or foe”**.

I will be delivering this seminar by means of MS Teams.

By way of a taster –

how to use social media productively, safely and respectfully as a tool for you in your role as Spelthorne Councillors.

So, yes do use social media as a councillor to reach out as a positive communication tool and to share your political messages speedily and widely.

Yes, don't be afraid to use Twitter,

Yes, don't be afraid to use Facebook

Yes, don't be afraid of using social media to get your political messages across – particularly as you get nearer to the May elections

But, always remember please that when you use social media in this political context you are communicating as a Spelthorne Councillor –and not in your private capacity.

So, be always mindful that your communications on social media are there for others to judge and scrutinise – remain respectful in all your communications and do always refrain from any and all personal attacks against all persons, including against your fellow Councillors and.... Particularly beware of re-tweeting messages from others, without first ensuring you have scrolled down to the very end and are happy for your good name(s) (and for the Council's good name) to be associated with every single message in the trail.

For any Councillors unable to join in on Monday 8th August, I will be holding a 2nd duplicate Social Media seminar, using MS Teams on Monday 22nd August at 7pm. (***There is no need to attend both dates, unless you want to join in again.***)

Monday 15th August at 7pm – **a refresher on the highlights of your Member Code of Conduct.**

(I will be delivering this seminar by way of MS Teams)

This will cover the key parts to the Model Code as they apply to you and a reminder of the Nolan Principles and their application to you as Spelthorne Councillors

Monday 5th September at 7pm – a refresher on some issues to be picked up from **the Protocol on Officer and Member Relations.**

(I will be delivering this seminar by way of MS Teams)

This will address some common issues that arise with respective professional obligations and expectations between Councillors and Officers.

Specifically relevant for members of the Licensing Committee :-

Thursday 8th September - training for Members relating to common licensing applications – your powers /what's relevant and what's to ignore.

(I will be delivering this seminar by way of MS teams)

Have a lovely summer everyone. Petra.