

DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF CORPORATE STRATEGY AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES – K.JONES

17th July 2015

SECTION A – MATTERS FOR DECISION

WARD(S) AFFECTED: ALL

ANNUAL MEMBER SURVEY

Purpose of Report

To update Members of the Democratic Services Committee on the Annual Member Survey 2015 and to agree how best to utilise the findings.

Background

In the last meeting of the Democratic Services Committee, Members approved the creation, design and implementation of a Member Survey to capture Members' views on a range of issues relating to democratic arrangements and processes. It is envisaged that this survey will take place annually; the findings of which will build into ongoing development and modernisation of democratic arrangements, processes and facilities.

Progress

Democratic Services Staff have been allocated groups of Members with whom to conduct the survey and this has commenced with some Members with the aim of completing all surveys by end of July. The surveys are being conducted on a face to face basis and are being input directly via an IPAD into Objective-the Council's online consultation portal which allows for instant and up to date results collation and reporting.

Thus far 33 surveys have been completed.

It is envisaged that the results of the survey will enable ongoing evaluation of the work conducted thus far under the ‘Strengthening and Modernising Democratic Arrangements’ proposals as well as providing a focus for the 2015/16 Civic year and beyond.

It is suggested that a special meeting of the Democratic Services Committee be convened in the autumn to discuss the results of the survey in detail and to formulate any relevant action plans for the 15/16 Civic Year.

Recommendations

- 1) That the Democratic Services Committee note the progress in relation to the Annual Member Survey 2015/16
- 2) That the Democratic Services Committee agrees to hold a special meeting following the Summer Recess to consider the findings of the survey and to develop a focused action plan based on the findings.

List of Background Papers

Democratic Process- Strengthening and Modernising Arrangements in Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council. Council. July 2014

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