

## Birmingham City Council

### Report to Cabinet Committee – Group Company Governance

21 November 2019



**Subject:** Update on Training – A Report for Information  
**Report of:** Suzanne Dodd, Acting City Solicitor, Finance & Governance  
**Relevant Cabinet Member:** Councillor Brigid Jones  
**Relevant O &S Chair(s):** Councillor Sir Albert Bore  
**Report author:** Connie Price, Head of Law

Are specific wards affected?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – All wards affected
If yes, name(s) of ward(s):		
Is this a key decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, add Forward Plan Reference:		
Is the decision eligible for call-in?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, provide exempt information paragraph number or reason if confidential :		

## 1 Executive Summary

1.1 This report provides Members with an update on the recent training delivered to members and officers in relation to their duties and responsibilities as directors and trustees of companies and charitable organisations. The report also provides an update on future pipeline training activities.

## 2 Recommendations

2.1 Members are asked to:

- note the information provided

### **3 Background**

- 3.1 The Council owns, appoints to or otherwise has an interest or involvement in more than 300 organisations made up of limited companies, charities, trusts and other entities.
- 3.2 The Committee has requested a programme of training to ensure Council nominated/appointed directors, observers and trustees are adequately equipped to perform the duties required of them.
- 3.3 The Committee has directed that all newly appointed Council nominated directors, observers and trustees shall receive mandatory training in their roles and responsibilities as directors/trustees.
- 3.4 A training event was carried out in January 2019 focusing on the roles and responsibilities of Directors in limited companies. Feedback from that training supported the Committee's opinion that a further session would be required to focus in roles and responsibilities of trustees in charitable organisations.
- 3.5 An update of the recent training events as well as the proposed future training activities are outlined in Appendix 1.

### **4 Options considered and Recommended Proposal**

- 4.1 The report is for consideration

### **5 Consultation**

- 5.1 The Chair of the Committee has been consulted.

### **6 Risk Management**

- 6.1 Failure to provide directors, observers and trustees with adequate training could result in non-compliance with statutory requirements and personal liability. A robust and comprehensive programme of mandatory training mitigates this risk.

### **7 Compliance Issues:**

- 7.1 **How are the recommended decisions consistent with the City Council's priorities, plans and strategies?**

The report is consistent with the Council's commitment to improve its corporate governance responsibilities.

#### **7.2 Legal Implications**

- a) None – the report is for information only

#### **7.3 Financial Implications**

- a) None

#### **7.4 Procurement Implications**

- a) There are no procurement implications directly arising from this report.

#### **7.5 Human Resources Implications (if required)**

- a) There are no human resources implications directly arising from this report.

#### **7.6 Public Sector Equality Duty**

- a) There are no equality duty or equality analysis issues relating to the proposals set out in this report.

#### **8 Background Documents**

8.1 None

#### **Appendix 1**

- Training Update November 2019