PROPOSAL FOR TRAINING OF PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMEN AND CLERKS – SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

Respondents: Arrington, Balsham, Bar Hill, Caxton, Conington, Duxford, Elsworth, Fen Drayton, Fulbourn, Gamlingay, Great Abington, Guilden Morden, Hildersham, Histon, Impington, Landbeach, Melbourn, Meldreth, Milton, Newton, Oakington & Westwick, Papworth Everard, Rampton, Sawston, Shepreth, Shudy Camps, Teversham, Toft, Waterbeach, Willingham

Statement Yes, we would like to send the parish clerk and Chairman / other nominated representative to a training session on the Revised Code of Conduct.			Responses 21
We would be happy to pay a training fee of £20 per delegate for this			11
training. We do not wish to pay a fee for this training because (see below)			10
We do not wish to attend any of these training sessions because			6
(see below)	ot .	nd .	•
Training Date / Time ¹	1 st Preference	2 nd Preference	Yes ²
Monday morning	2	2	4
Monday afternoon	2	3	2
Monday evening	0	0	2
Tuesday morning	6	0	3
Tuesday afternoon	0	2	2
Tuesday evening	1	0	2
Wednesday morning	2	2	3 2
Wednesday afternoon	1	1	2
Wednesday evening	3	0	2
Thursday morning	2	2	2
Thursday afternoon	1	2	2
Thursday evening	1	3	3
Friday morning	1	1	4
Friday afternoon	0	1	2
Friday evening	0	0	1
Saturday morning	0	0	3

Comments received General

"Meldreth Parish Council unanimously considers that a well written pamphlet on the new Code would suffice."

"I think the Monitoring officers problem page to answer general questions would be a very good idea."

"It is highly unlikely that any councillor will devote 2 days to this."

"Whilst it was agreed the training was a good idea, the Parish Council agreed that it was difficult to commit to such training so close to May elections, especially as Councillors time and costs were involved."

¹ The majority of responses included more than just one first and one second preference. All responses are shown on this table.

² Did not specify whether was first or second preference.

"We would prefer to see what the proposed changes are first and then ask for help / support if we need it. Managed fine first time round without any offer of help! Thanks anyway."

"Written information on the revised code will be issued by the Standards Board, CALC & NALC, SCDC. That is considered sufficient."

Cost of Training

"Council felt that with the amount already spent on training this financial year and current commitments to training new councillors and a new clerk (which it had not budgeted for), it cannot afford to pay for any additional training and thus is not happy to pay £20 per delegate for the code of conduct training, particularly as this would be in addition to any expenses / costs incurred by delegates. Council is however, happy for a representative to come to council to deliver the training at no cost to Rampton Parish Council."

"We do not have any spare money and this was not budgeted for in this year's budget. Councillors felt that £20 PER DELEGATE was far too high and would not send anyone if this was charged. They felt that it is the duty of SCDC to provide this training and that the fees that are paid to CALC on an annual basis are high and should cover this type of training. All councillors wished to attend as they felt all should be up to date in this matter"

"We feel this is an essential area of training and should be provided out of DC funds through the Council tax levied. Membership of CALC is paid by Elsworth on an annual basis and this type of training should be included in the fee to enable all councillors to attend and update themselves on new essential legislation. If only the Clerk and Chairman attend we often find that other councillors do not apprise themselves of the information that is passed on and the workings of the parish council are impeded."

"We cannot attend as we do not raise a precept at Conington PM."

"The part identified for the cost of the venue is owned by SCDC and already paid for by residents of the district."

"The Standard Committee has a responsibility for provision and delivery of the Code of Conduct and therefore should be provided free."

"We would be happy to pay a training fee of £20 per delegate for this training, however Council would like further info on training first."

"The Council feels the District Council should make provision in their budget for this training & not incur any cost to Parish Council's."

"Necessary training should be available without additional cost."

"We think this should be part of SCDC service to parish councils to ensure quality local councils."

"This is a statutory duty of all councils and therefore free training should be given."

"Not a priority for expenditure."