Wistaston Parish Council Councillors' Training and Development Budget Policy

Executive Summary

Wistaston Parish Council will set aside a modest annual budget specifically for the purpose of Councillors Training and Development. Attendance would remain entirely voluntary. The aim is to reduce unnecessary process and make basic development opportunities easier to access. The approach is consistent with Cheshire East Council's Member Development Strategy 2025-2027, which allocates a dedicated member training budget.

Benefits

A dedicated budget reduces administrative effort, allowing councillors to take up relevant courses quickly, and help ensure that those who wish to strengthen their knowledge can do so without friction. Any unspent balance could be carried forward or used for emerging needs.

The Budget

The Council have agreed to allocate £1,000 per year for this purpose. Courses costing under £50 per person would be automatically pre-approved, allowing the Clerk to book them promptly when a councillor wishes to attend.

The arrangement will be reviewed annually as part of the normal budget process.