



two ways :: one outcome

Professional Development (Councillors and Local Authority Members) Policy

REFERENCE NUMBER:	P-12
ORGANISATION UNIT:	All
RESPONSIBLE POSITION:	Chief Executive Officer
RELEVANT DELEGATIONS:	Nil
DATE ADOPTED:	April 2015 (051/2015)
REVIEW DATE:	Every three years

Objectives:

To guide council's decision making about the professional development of councillors and Local Authority members.

Legislation and Reference:

Local Government Act Guidelines 2014 (Councillor Allowances)
Central Desert Regional Council Business Plan (Goal 5: Democracy and Governance)

Policy:

Council will maintain a Professional Development Plan based on the following principles:

- All new councillors will receive an induction workshop as soon as possible after a Regional Council election.
- Throughout their term Councillors will receive ongoing governance training at planned Regional Council meetings, as well as additional training activities addressing specific training needs identified by Councillors and Management.
- Local Authority members will receive ongoing training in the form of regular meeting facilitation as well as additional training activities on specific training needs identified by local Authority members and Management.
- Professional development can be provided in-house where Council staff has the necessary qualifications and experience.
- Locally experienced independent trainers/facilitators will be used where Council staff does not have necessary skills and experience and where independent trainers/facilitators are affordable, so both elected and appointed members and Council staff can share learning opportunities.
- Councillors can undertake professional development as individuals or as a group.



two ways :: one outcome

- In order to save money and learn from others council will conduct joint training with other councils or share trainers and training materials with other councils wherever possible

The Professional Development plan may include training in various areas as agreed between Councillors, Local Authority members, and Management.

Courses, conferences and training becomes available from time to time that may benefit individual Councillors. When deciding whether to approve such activities Council must consider whether they

- are in the best interest of Central Desert Regional Council residents;
- keep up, improve and broaden members' existing knowledge and skills;
- develop the personal qualities they need to do their work.

A register of professional development applications will be kept by the Governance Manager.

The Governance Manager will regularly report to council about professional development activities funded under this policy.

History:

Adopted 10 December 2008