

Title of Report: NI Charter Plus for Elected Member Development	Officer Presenting: Lead Democratic Services and Improvement Officer Author: Democratic Services Officer
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1 Purpose of Report/Recommendations

- 1.1 To advise Members of Council's successful review of progress against the NI Charter Plus for Elected Member Development; and maintenance of Charter status.

2 Background

- 2.1 Council was awarded the Northern Ireland Charter Plus for Elected Member Development in April 2018 for a three year period; subject to a successful 18 month review.
- 2.2 The date of the original 18 month review was delayed due to the processes required for NILGA to become the Lead Co-Ordinator in NI and also for the development of a new Charter Framework.
- 2.3 The review was subsequently completed on 28 October 2020 via a virtual meeting. The Chair of the Elected Member Development Group, Councillor John Boyle and the DSO attended this meeting and provided evidence to demonstrate that Council continues to provide Member Development support to the standard required of the Charter Plus standard.

3 Key Issues

- 3.1 NILGA have advised that Council have successfully completed the Charter Plus review; and in fact were extremely complimentary of the Member Development processes within Council.
- 3.2 Council will be required to undertake a full reassessment in October 2021.
- 3.3 As part of this reassessment, evidence will also be sought as to how Council met the challenges presented by virtual Member Development.

4 Financial, Equality, Legal, HR, Improvement and other Implications

4.1 There are no implications associated with this report.

5 Recommendations

5.1 Members to note the successful review against the NI Charter Plus for Elected Member Development.