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| <b>Title of meeting:</b>      | Cabinet Member for Communities and Central Services |
| <b>Date of meeting:</b>       | 16 December 2021                                    |
| <b>Subject:</b>               | Member Champions Protocol                           |
| <b>Report by:</b>             | Senior Local Democracy Officer                      |
| <b>Wards affected:</b>        | N/A   |
| <b>Key decision:</b>          | No  |
| <b>Full Council decision:</b> | No  |

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## 1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. To invite the Cabinet Member to consider agreeing changes to the Member Champions Protocol.
- 1.2. Following any changes to the protocol, the Cabinet Member is invited to approve the titles of the individual Member Champion roles, their remit and confirm the appointment of members to these positions until their renewal. Renewal would ordinarily take place at the first Cabinet meeting of each municipal year.

## 2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Cabinet member:

- (i) Approves the revised Member Champions Protocol at Appendix A of this report;
- (ii) Approves the Member Champion titles at Appendix B of the report; and
- (iii) Confirms councillor nominations to the Member Champion positions detailed in Appendix B of the report. These appointments to remain in effect until their renewal, which would ordinarily take place at the first Cabinet meeting of each municipal year.

## 3. Background

3.1 The definition of Member Champions within the existing protocol states:

*"To act as a positive focus for officers and the local community at elected member level in respect of the relevant section of the community or range of activities designated by the Council through its committees or panels so as to ensure that full consideration is given to the impact of Council activities and decisions upon that section of the community or range of activities."*

3.2 At the June 2021 Cabinet meeting a request was made that a paper be considered on the role of Member Champions. In the interim the 2020/21 appointments were confirmed to remain in place.

3.3 At this same meeting the remit of three Member Champion positions were suggested to be subsumed into the remit of relevant Cabinet Members and two new Member Champion positions were put forward. These are detailed in para 3.4 of this report.

3.4 A list of all Member Champion positions referred to in paragraphs 3.2 and 3.3 is below (with current appointments where applicable)

- Heritage - Cllr Lee Hunt
- LGBTQ+ & Young People - Cllr Udy
- Armed Forces Liaison - Cllr Vernon-Jackson
- Third Sector City of Service - Vacancy
- Children & Young People - suggested to be subsumed into the remit of the Cabinet Member for Children, Families & Education
- Mental Health - suggested to be subsumed into the remit of the Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing & Social Care
- Homelessness - suggested to be subsumed into the remit of the Cabinet Member for Housing and Preventing Homelessness
- Women and Domestic Violence - suggest rewording to: *Women, Children and Domestic Violence (to also include transitioning and trans women)*
- Nature (suggested new Member Champion position)

3.5 In order to refine and provide further clarity around the positions a request was made by the Cabinet Member to undertake a benchmarking exercise on Member Champions to develop a revised protocol. The proposed updated Member Champions Protocol is attached as Appendix A.

#### **4. Reasons for recommendations**

4.1. The suggested updated Member Champions Protocol draws upon best practice following a benchmarking exercise of the protocols adopted by other councils. It has been developed with the aim of providing a protocol that details the generic remit of the positions in order to give additional clarity to both those holding a Member Champion position and the Cabinet when agreeing the appointments.

**5. Integrated Impact assessment**

5.1. An integrated impact assessment has been completed.

**6. Legal Implications/City Solicitor comments**

6.1 The decisions lay within Cabinet to make and subject to complying with the relevant protocols within the Constitution as to appointment of Members in a transparent way as such do not require further legal comment. (see :1 recommendation 3).

**7. Director of Finance & Resources comments**

7.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

**Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972**

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Signed by:

**Appendices:**

**Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972**

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

| Title of document | Location |
|-------------------|----------|
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|                   |          |

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/ rejected by ..... on .....

.....  
Signed by: