

Appointment of an Armed Forces Champion

22 May 2023

Report of the Senior Manager, Democratic Services

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To appoint a non-Cabinet Armed Forces Champion for the four-year period 2023/24 to 2026/2027, as detailed in the report.

This report is public.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) That an Armed Forces Champion for be appointed by Council for the four-year term 2023/24 to 2026/27.**

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 On 6 February 2013, Council created the role of Veterans' Champion as a result of a motion on notice. It is a role for a non-Cabinet Councillor with a remit to: ***“support and champion the plight of services leavers within our District.”***
- 1.2 Council, at its meeting held on 27 July 2022, considered a report regarding designation of the Veterans' Champion. After considering the report Council resolved that the name of the Veterans' Champion be changed to the 'Armed Forces Champion' as this better reflected the work that was done by the postholder at that time (minute 47 refers).

2.0 Proposal

- 2.1 The appointment to be made at this meeting will be for a four year term, in accordance with a Council resolution made on 12 May 2014 (minute 17 refers) “...to enable the champions to develop their knowledge and carry out their duties over a longer period.”

3.0 Conclusion

- 3.1 Council is asked to appoint an Armed Forces Champion for the four year term ending in May 2027. Only non-Cabinet Members may be nominated. The role of Champion attracts a small allowance which depends on how many Champions the Council appoints. With two Champions currently (Champions for the Armed Forces and for Disabilities) the allowance is £250 each Champion per annum.

CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT

(including Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)

Diversity – the Armed Forces Champion is appointed to take a particular interest in services and circumstances which affect and impact upon this particular group in the district, recognising that there are different and varying needs within this section of the Community.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications as a direct result of this report. The Armed Forces Champion receives a small allowance to cover expenses incurred as part of their role. This is met from within existing budget for Councillors allowances.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications as a direct result of this report.

SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Section 151 Officer has been consulted and has no further comments.

MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no comments.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Contact Officer: Debbie Chambers
Telephone: 01524 582057
E-mail: dchambers@lancaster.gov.uk