

## **MEMBER CHAMPION ROLE DEFINITION**

The principal purpose of the Member Champion role is to:

1. Promote the interest within the Council, having regard to the Council's overall corporate and service priorities.
2. Take a particular interest in the needs and wishes of any client group relevant to the interest being championed.
3. Ensure that decision-makers within the Council and externally are aware of issues and opportunities related to the interest.
4. Contribute to the continuous improvement of services and functions related to the interest and be a catalyst for change.
5. Ensure good practice within the authority relating to the interest is shared and that examples of good practice elsewhere are brought to the attention of members and officers.
6. Keep up to date with all relevant matters connected with the interest.

The primary functional responsibilities are as follows:

1. Engage with relevant local and national bodies and communities of place, culture and interest, to promote the interest, attending meetings as necessary.
2. Monitor the work programmes of the Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny Committees in order to work proactively with lead members to advise, identify, challenge and exert influence.
3. Ensure all members of the Council, in particular Cabinet members, Overview and Scrutiny chairmen and the Council's officers are made aware of the needs, issues and support available relating to the interest.
4. Seek appropriate opportunities to promote the interest further with members and officers through seminars, other awareness raising events and personal attendance at meetings.
5. Liaise with relevant partner bodies on matters relating to the interest, and seek opportunities for direct participation in issues being considered, when appropriate.
6. Undertake personal development and training to ensure effective performance in the role of Member Champion.
7. Present an Annual Report to the Council on the work achieved during the previous reporting period and priorities identified for the future.
8. Report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee as required.