

## Member Champion

### Purpose

1. To act as an advocate and spokesperson to promote the positive aspects of the Council's work among those on whom the Champion's interest area impacts.
2. To promote a joined-up approach between the activities of the Council and the work of other organisations, in supporting activities for the Champion's interest area and involving them in developing services.

### Duties and responsibilities

1. Foster cross-party co-operation and be able to engage with relevant outside groups and officers in the area of work they represent.
2. Understand and express the opinions and priorities of those groups back to the Council.
3. To stay sensitive to Council priorities and remember their broader role as a Councillor.
4. Raise the profile of the issue and communicating to the relevant groups, the Council's commitment to it.
5. Foster the engagement of a wider range of Members in the issue.
6. Promote effective communication and positive working relationships both within the Council and among relevant partners, stakeholders and community groups including making reports to Council.
7. Provide positive support, and on occasion constructive challenge, to officers in driving forward the Council's agenda on the issue.
8. Be available to be the Council's nominee on appropriate outside bodies and to attend relevant conferences and training and briefing opportunities.
9. To be the press spokesperson on the issues relevant to the Champion's interest.
10. Keep up to date on issues relevant to the Champion's interest.

### Skills Required

1. Good communication and interpersonal skills.
2. Leadership and excellent chairmanship skills.
3. Time management skills.
4. Ability to influence and work constructively with members, officers, the public, external advisors and outside organisations.
5. Media Relations skills.
6. Advocacy skills.
7. Ability to work as part of a team.