MEMBER DEVELOPMENT CHAMPION

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Summary and Presents a draft role profile for the Member Development Champion

Recommendation: That the role profile is approved and an appointment made as Member

development Champion for the remainder of the 2009/2010 year.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Council at the annual Meeting on 15 May deferred the appointment of a Member Development Champion pending further information.

2. ROLE PROFILE

- 2.1 A Role Profile for the Member Development Champion has therefore been prepared and is attached at Appendix "A". As noted in the report to Executive on 21 April, the Champion will have a particular role in the work later in 2009 leading up to our accreditation renewal, and moving towards Level 2 accreditation in subsequent years. The member Development Champion will be accountable to full Council but also to the Portfolio Holder and Shadow Portfolio Holder and will need to work closely with members of all three political groups in carrying forward the duties set out in the profile
- 2.2 The Council is asked to agree the role profile and appoint a Councillor to the role for the remainder of the 2009/2010 year.

List of Appendices: Appendix "A" Role Profile

List of Background Documents: None

List of Consultees: Corporate Team; Leader; Councillor K Hitchen

MEMBER DEVELOPMENT CHAMPION – DRAFT ROLE BRIEF

1. Values

To be committed to the vision and objectives of Copeland Borough Council and to the following values in public life:

Openness and transparency Honesty and integrity Tolerance and respect Equality and fairness Sustainability

2. Accountabilities

To Full Council
To the portfolio holder and shadow portfolio holder

3. Responsibilities

Ensure that the Copeland Borough Council Member Development Strategy is delivered effectively and reviewed regularly, and that Councillors are involved in both processes.

Ensure that a culture of continuous learning and development for Councillors is fostered, maintained and embedded

Provide leadership, vision and innovation in learning and development for Councillors

Explore and implement opportunities for joint working in delivery of Councillor learning and development

Working with relevant officers and members, ensure that the Council's accreditation to the North West Employers' Member Development Charter is retained, and lead on achieving Level 2 accreditation

Ensure all Members are encouraged to participate in a process to identify their learning and development needs

Ensure there are processes in place to ensure Members are aware of learning and development opportunities that are available to them.

Ensure there are processes in place to evaluate training and development provided for Councillors

In consultation with the Portfolio Holder and Shadow Portfolio Holder, agree an annual learning and development programme for Councillors and review and monitor its delivery

In consultation with the Portfolio Holder and Shadow Portfolio Holder, determine applications for approval and funding for Councillor training and development which fall outside the agreed programme

Ensure that appropriate induction training is available for all new Councillors

4. Skills

Good communications and interpersonal skills

Listening and questioning skills

Ability to lead and chair meetings, manage time and facilitate open discussion

Ability to influence and work constructively with senior Executive and non Executive members, officers and outside organisations

Ability to work as a member of a team

Ability to lead by example

5. Knowledge

Knowledge of current local, regional and national issues in relation to Councillor learning and development

Knowledge of the respective roles of members, officers and external partners in Councillor learning and development

Knowledge of the Council's Code of Conduct and budgetary procedures

Understanding of the principles of rational and informed decision-making