

## **ARMED FORCES COUNCILLOR CHAMPION ANNUAL STATEMENT 2025/26**

<b>Head of Service:</b>	Rod Brown, Head of Housing & Community
<b>Report Author</b>	Dan Clackson
<b>Wards affected:</b>	(All Wards);
<b>Urgent Decision?(yes/no)</b>	
<b>If yes, reason urgent decision required:</b>	
<b>Appendices (attached):</b>	Appendix 1 – Annual Statement of the Armed Forces Councillor Champion

### **Summary**

To report to the committee the annual statement of the Armed Forces Councillor Champion.

### **Recommendation (s)**

**The Committee is asked to:**

- (1) Receive and note the annual statement of the Armed Forces Councillor Champion.**

## **1 Reason for Recommendation**

- 1.1 Section 8.3.1 of Annex 2.1 of the Operating Framework requires councillor champions to produce an annual statement to the relevant policy committee. This report presents the annual statement of the Armed Forces Councillor Champion to the committee in compliance with that requirement.

## **2 Background**

- 2.1 Councillor champions are appointed annually by the Council in accordance with Annex 2.1 of the Operating Framework, to promote the cause for which they are a champion.
- 2.2 Section 8.2 of Annex 2.1 sets out that councillor champions will achieve this through:

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- i. Being outward-facing, enthusiastic, and focused on raising the profile of the area they champion.
- ii. Developing in-depth knowledge and understanding of the issue(s) they champion.
- iii. Using their in-depth knowledge to support the relevant committee Chair(s) and Vice Chair(s).
- iv. Represent their area both within and outside the council, in line with council policies.
- v. Engaging relevant stakeholders to include them in the council's work.
- vi. Acting as an advocate or spokesperson for the council's business and activities.
- vii. Providing positive support, and on occasions, constructive challenge to officers in driving forward the council agenda on relevant issues.
- viii. Acting as the council's representative on relevant external bodies where appointed to by the council.
- ix. Encouraging communications and positive action over the issue(s) they represent.

2.3 The annual statement of the Armed Forces councillor champion, Councillor Graham Jones, is attached at appendix 1 to this report. The statement is presented to this Committee as it falls within the committee's terms of reference.

## 3 Risk Assessment

Legal or other duties

### 3.1 Equality Impact Assessment

3.1.1 No comments are provided on councillor champion annual statements.

### 3.2 Crime & Disorder

3.2.1 No comments are provided on councillor champion annual statements.

### 3.3 Safeguarding

3.3.1 No comments are provided on councillor champion annual statements.

### 3.4 Dependencies

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3.4.1 No comments are provided on councillor champion annual statements.

3.5 Other

3.5.1 No comments are provided on councillor champion annual statements.

### 4 Financial Implications

4.1 No comments are provided on councillor champion annual statements.

4.2 **Section 151 Officer's comments:** None for the purposes of this report.

### 5 Legal Implications

5.1 No comments are provided on councillor champion annual statements.

5.2 **Legal Officer's comments:** None for the purposes of this report.

### 6 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

6.1 **Council's Key Priorities:** No comments are provided on councillor champion annual statements.

6.2 **Service Plans:** The matter is not included within the current Service Delivery Plan.

6.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations:** No comments are provided on councillor champion annual statements.

6.4 **Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications:** No comments are provided on councillor champion annual statements.

6.5 **Partnerships:** No comments are provided on councillor champion annual statements.

6.6 **Local Government Reorganisation Implications:** No comments are provided on councillor champion annual statements.

### 7 Background papers

7.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

**Previous reports:**

- Representation on External bodies, report and minutes of Council meeting 13/05/2025

**Other papers:**

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- Annex 2.1 of the Operating Framework – Further information on Councillors
- Appendix 3 of the Constitution – Terms of Reference of the Full Council and Committees