

**Meeting of the Full Council**  
**Meeting to be held on Thursday, 15 October 2020**

Report submitted by: Head of Legal and Democratic Services

**Part A**

Electoral Division affected:  
None;

**Appointment of a Champion for Mental Health - Constitutional Amendments**

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**Executive Summary**

Cabinet has agreed the appointment of a Champion for Mental Health. There is a consequential need to amend parts of the constitution to reflect this decision.

This decision is urgent and cannot await the next meeting of Full Council on 17 December 2020. The reason for this is that in recognition of the increasing prevalence of mental health issues amongst our population, especially reflecting the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic, it is important that the new champion be in post and able to make a contribution as soon as possible.

**Recommendation**

Full Council is asked to approve that:

- (i) The constitution be amended to reflect the Cabinet decision to appoint a Champion for Mental Health.
- (ii) The Director of Corporate Services be authorised to approve the detailed consequential amendments to the Constitution.

**Background and Advice**

On 13 October 2020, The Leader of the council agreed, on behalf of Cabinet, to the establishment of the post of Champion for Mental Health, and the appointment of County Councillor Eddie Pope to the role. As with the other five existing Champion posts, the post-holder will be allocated a sum of £10,000 per annum to use at their discretion to finance activities associated with their area of responsibility.

The post will also come with a Special Responsibility Allowance of £5,482. However, the new Champion for Mental Health currently receives a Special Responsibility Allowance as Chair of the county council's Pension Fund Committee. He will, therefore, forgo the Special Responsibility Allowance normally payable to a Champion. As a result, there will be no change to the Members' Allowance Scheme budget.

Although the appointment of Champions is a matter for the Cabinet, there are consequential amendments required to the constitution, including to Part 2 – Article 4 (The Leader, the Cabinet, members of the Cabinet, the Champions and Lead Members) and to Appendix I – the Members Allowance Scheme.

The purpose of this report is to therefore ask Full Council to approve that the relevant amendments to the Constitution be made as a consequence of the Cabinet decision.

### **Consultations**

N/A

### **Implications:**

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

### **Risk management**

There are no significant legal or financial implications of the decision asked of Full Council. The report to the Leader on 13 October set out the specific implications of the appointment.

### **Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers**

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A