

BOLSOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL

Meeting of Council on 21st May 2025

Member Champions 2025/26

Report of the Director of Governance and Legal Services & Monitoring Officer

Classification	This report is Public
Contact Officer	Jim Fieldsend Director of Governance and Legal Services & Monitoring Officer

PURPOSE/SUMMARY OF REPORT

To appoint Member Champions for the 2025/26 Municipal Year.

REPORT DETAILS

1. Background

- 1.1 Member Champions are Councillors who act as an advocate or spokesperson for a specific area of the Council's business and activities. The main responsibility of each Member Champion is to encourage communications and positive action over the issue they represent.
- 1.2 All Member Champions must act reasonable in their role and recognise and work within the political management and working arrangements adopted by the Council. As such the Member Champion must work, and communicate regularly, with the relevant Portfolio Holders.
- 1.3 A Member Champion cannot make decisions and must not commit the Council in any way or in a manner that could be interpreted as being contrary to established policy and practice. They may however confirm a position as stated in a published policy.
- 1.4 The role of a Member Champion is to:
 - represent their area of interest both within and outside the Council in line with Council policy.
 - contribute to the review and development of policies pertaining to their area of interest.

- challenge and question the Council, the Leader and the Portfolio Holders on issues relevant to their area of responsibility.
- act as a catalyst for change and improvement in service delivery.
- monitor the forward plan and seek information from the Leader, Committee Chairs and officers about forthcoming business and exert influence on behalf of the interest.
- keep Councillors of all parties up to date with activities in relevant areas of interest.
- network with Member Champions from other local authorities with the same interest to keep up to date with current developments.
- provide positive support and on occasions constructive challenge to officers in driving forward the Council agenda on relevant issues.
- act as the Council's representative on relevant external bodies where appointed to by the Council.

1.5 The Leader and Portfolio Holders will:

- acknowledge the right of Member Champions to be consulted on matters relating to their area of interest;
- take full account of any views offered by the Member Champions prior to making decisions relating to their area of interest;
- co-operate with Member Champions in the formulation of action plans they have developed with lead officers;
- consider nominating Champions to represent the Council at relevant conferences/seminars on the subject matter of the Member's interest.

2. **Details of Proposal or Information**

2.1 The proposed Member Champions for 2025/26 Municipal Year are set out in **Appendix 1**.

3. **Reasons for Recommendation**

3.1 To appoint Member Champions to advocate for their areas of interest.

4 **Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection**

4.1 None.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. That the appointments of Member Champions as set out in Appendix 1 be agreed.

IMPLICATIONS:

<u>Finance and Risk</u> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Details: There are no financial or risk implications arising from this report. On behalf of the Section 151 Officer	
<u>Legal (including Data Protection)</u> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Details: There are no legal or data protection issues arising from this report. On behalf of the Solicitor to the Council	
<u>Staffing</u> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Details: There are no human resource issues implications arising from this report. On behalf of the Head of Paid Service	
<u>Equality and Diversity, and Consultation</u> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Details:	
<u>Environment</u> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Please identify (if applicable) how this proposal/report will help the Authority meet its carbon neutral target or enhance the environment. Details: There are no environmental implications arising from this report.	

DECISION INFORMATION:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please indicate which threshold applies:	
Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an Executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more wards in the District or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Revenue (a) Results in the Council making Revenue Savings of £75,000 or more or (b) Results in the Council incurring Revenue Expenditure of £75,000 or more.	(a) <input type="checkbox"/> (b) <input type="checkbox"/>
Capital (a) Results in the Council making Capital Income of £150,000 or more or (b) Results in the Council incurring Capital Expenditure of £150,000 or more.	(a) <input type="checkbox"/> (b) <input type="checkbox"/>

District Wards Significantly Affected:

(to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the District)

Please state below which wards are affected or tick **All** if all wards are affected:

All ☐

Is the decision subject to Call-In?

(Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)

If No, is the call-in period to be waived in respect of the decision(s) proposed within this report? *(decisions may only be classified as exempt from call-in with the agreement of the Monitoring Officer)*

Yes ☐ **No** ☒

Yes ☐ **No** ☐

Consultation carried out:

(this is any consultation carried out prior to the report being presented for approval)

Yes ☐ **No** ☐

Leader ☒ **Deputy Leader** ☒ **Executive** ☐ **SLT** ☐

Relevant Service Manager ☐ **Members** ☐ **Public** ☐

Other ☐

Links to Council Ambition: Customers, Economy, Environment, Housing

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DOCUMENT INFORMATION:

Appendix No	Title
1	Appointment of Member Champions 2025/26

Background Papers

(These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Executive, you must provide copies of the background papers).

None.