

LANCASHIRE COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY
Meeting to be held on Monday, 17 December 2018

MEMBER CHAMPION ACTIVITY REPORT

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Executive Summary

This paper provides a report on the work of the Member Champions for the period up to December 2018.

Recommendation

The Authority is requested to note and endorse the report and acknowledge the work of the respective champions.

Information

The concept of Member Champions was introduced in December 2007. A review of the areas of focus for Member Champions was considered at the Authority meeting held in June 2017 where new areas of responsibility were discussed and agreed as follows: -

- Community Safety – CC Mark Perks
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion – Cllr Zamir Khan
- Health and Wellbeing – CC Tony Martin
- Road Safety – Cllr Fred Jackson

Reports relating to the activity of the Member Champions are provided on a regular basis to the Authority. This report relates to activity for the period up to December 2018.

During this period, all have undertaken their respective role in accordance with the defined terms of reference. Their activity to date is as follows:

Older People – County Councillor Mark Perks

The Age Safe Group have a planning meeting scheduled in January to confirm the activities for 2019 and are currently helping to develop the Winter Safety Campaign which will run from January to March 2019 with the focus on fuel poverty and reaching out to LFRS for advice and help. The Dementia Task Group have continued to provide joint partnership Dementia Friends Sessions with Lancashire Police and are currently considering venues for the next event. Councillor Mark Perks continues to support the activities of the Group.

Equality and Diversity – Councillor Zamir Khan

The Service celebrated Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights, with a dress the desk competition, which raised awareness and understanding about the festival.

As part of our fundraising work for George House Trust, the Trust ran a HIV awareness Training Session, the purpose of which was to provide some basic knowledge around HIV and its effects on staff.

Dyslexia Awareness week was 1-7 October 2018 and this was an opportunity to launch our new policy and the opportunities to support staff.

Health & Wellbeing – County Councillor Tony Martin

County Councillor Tony Martin supported the launch of Trauma Risk Management (TRiM) which was introduced into the service in May this year. The TRiM Practitioners are trained volunteers who have pledged to support peers by providing person-centered structured support in a safe environment where staff can feel comfortable discussing the impact a traumatic incident is having on their mental/physical health. TRiM Practitioners are not counsellors or therapists, but understand confidentiality and are able to listen to what staff have to say and they offer practical advice and assistance and signpost staff to services which can support them.

The next steps are to fully embed TRiM support across the service and to enhance the wider Peer Supporter roles to support staff who are finding it difficult and not coping as well as they usually do.

Road Safety – Councillor Fred Jackson

Councillor Fred Jackson has continued to influence road safety within Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service by attending the Road Safe thematic group.

Financial Implications

Activities are within budget.

Business Risk Implications

Whilst no formal obligation is placed on the Authority to have Champions, effective utilisation of such roles offers a number of benefits.

Environmental Impact

The Member Champion provides leadership on environmental issues and assists in engaging Authority members in strategic objectives relating to protecting the environment.

Equality and Diversity Implications

The member champion role provides leadership on E&D issues and assists in engaging Authority members in strategic objectives relating to equality and diversity.

Human Resource Implications

Some member and officer time commitments.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact DCFO Justin Johnston
Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate		