Lancashire Combined Fire Authority

Meeting to be held on Monday 17 February 2025

Proposed Amendment to The Role Description of Members

(Appendices 1 and 2 refer)

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Executive Summary

At the November 2024 Member Training and Development Working Group, some proposals for minor changes to the Description of the Role of Members in the agenda pack, were made, with regard to the current financial climate and uncertainties around Local Government funding.

Other cosmetic changes were also made in relation to the role of Member Champions.

Recommendation

The Authority is asked to approve the minor amendments and in effect to approve the revised Role of Members and Role Description for the Member Champions in accordance with Members' indications of support for County Councillor Salter's proposals made during the business of the Working Group, as outlined at Appendices 1 and 2.

Information

The amendments, proposed by County Councillor Salter, in respect of the change to the Description of the Role of members was as follows:

- To change the wording on Page 2 of the document from 'Deliver Affordable and Sustainable Services', to 'Deliver Realistic Future Planning'.
- To remove the bullet point 'Planning for future grant reductions'.

The proposal to change the Role Description of Member Champions attached in the Working Group agenda pack at Annex 2 was as follows:

To change the wording of the bullet point 'Engage with other Fire Authority Members to promote awareness of older people issues and to seek their views', to 'Engage with other Fire Authority Members to promote awareness of issues effecting older people and seek their views'.

The proposals are mindful of the need to review the Authority's functions and adapt to changes within the social and economic climate, which is consistent with good governance principles.

The proposals, whilst relatively minor, do potentially engage with paragraph 3.1.d of the Authority's Constitutional Procedural and Contractual Standing Orders, and therefore it is a requirement that the proposals are ratified by the Authority.

The proposals are consistent with the Authority's Member Training and Development Strategy, which was last approved by the CFA on 22 February 2021. The Clerk would

however welcome a joint review of this strategy with the Director of People and Development, who is responsible for its delivery.

Business Risk

Governance arrangements form a key element of the control framework within which the Authority operates. The changes proposed are merely cosmetic and do not impact on the effectiveness of the Authority's delivery of good governance, they enhance it.

Environmental Impact

None identified.

Equality and Diversity Implications

The proposed changes merely reiterate and underline the Authority's commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion in accordance with its legal obligations to section 149 Equality Act 2010 (also known as the general public sector equality duty.)

HR Implications

See above.

Financial Implications

None identified.

Legal implications

The proposals do potentially engage with paragraph 3.1.d of the Authority's Constitutional Procedural and Contractual Standing Orders therefore it is a requirement that the proposals are ratified by the Authority.

The proposals are consistent with the Authority's Member Training and Development Strategy, which was last approved by the CFA on 22 February 2021.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

List of background papers

Paper: Report to CFA 22 February 2021, Constitutional, Procedural and Contractual

Standing Orders (revised 22 February 2021.)

Date: 22 February 2021

Contact: Clerk and Monitoring Officer to the Authority

Reason for inclusion in Part 2 if appropriate: N/A