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## **CHAIR OF DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE – ROLE DESCRIPTION**

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### **1 Accountabilities**

- To Full Council

### **2 Role Purpose and Activity**

- **Providing leadership and direction**
  - To provide confident and effective management of meetings to facilitate inclusivity, participation and clear decision making
  - To lead the committee in its role in:
    - Keeping under review the provision of staff, accommodation and other resources made available to the Head of Democratic services, ensuring that these are adequate
    - Make annual reports to the full council in relation to the above
    - Appointing sub committees and chairs of subcommittees to undertake functions delegated by the committee
    - Considering reports prepared by the Head of Democratic Services
    - Developing the Authority's member support and development strategy
    - Ensuring that members have access to a reasonable level of training and development as described in the Authority's member development strategy and the Wales Charter for Member Support and Development
    - Ensuring that the budget for member development is sufficient
    - Ensuring that members have access to personal development planning and annual personal development reviews
  - To demonstrate integrity and impartiality in decision making which accord with legal, constitutional and policy requirements
- **To be the Council's Member Development Champion**
  - To promote and develop Authority's member support and development strategy
  - To promote the role of members and necessary support and development.
  - To ensure as far as possible that members fully take up their opportunities to attend member development events and access personal development planning and annual personal development reviews

- **Promoting the role of the Democratic Services Committee**
  - To act as an ambassador for the DS committee, facilitating understanding of the role
  - To act within technical, legal and procedural requirements to oversee the functions of the committee fairly and correctly
  - To ensure thoroughness and objectivity in the committee, receiving and responding to professional advice in the conduct of meetings.
  
- **Internal governance, ethical standards and relationships**
  - To develop the standing and integrity of the committee and its decision making
  - To understand the respective roles of members, officers and external parties operating within the Democratic services committee's area of responsibility
  - To promote and support good governance by the Council.

### **3 Values**

- To be committed to the values of the council and the following values in public office:
  - Openness and transparency
  - Honesty and integrity
  - Tolerance and respect
  - Equality and fairness
  - Appreciation of cultural differences
  - Sustainability

## **1 Accountabilities**

- To Full Council
- To the Chair of the Democratic Services committee

## **2 Role purpose and activity**

- **Understanding the nature of the democratic services committee:**
  - To be aware of and effectively undertake the role of the committee in:
    - Keeping under review the provision of staff, accommodation and other resources made available to the Head of Democratic services, ensuring that these are adequate
    - Make annual reports to the full council in relation to the above
    - Appointing sub committees and chairs of subcommittees to undertake functions delegated by the committee
    - Considering reports prepared by the Head of Democratic Services
    - Developing the Authority's member support and development strategy
    - Ensuring that members have access to a reasonable level of training and development as described in the member development strategy and the Wales Charter for Member Support and Development
    - Ensuring that the budget for member development is sufficient
    - Ensuring that members have access to personal development planning and annual personal development reviews
  - To have sufficient technical, legal and procedural knowledge to contribute fairly and correctly to the function of the committee.
  - To be thorough and objective in receiving and responding to professional advice in the conduct of meetings and issues before the committee
- **Participating in meetings and making decisions**
  - To participate effectively in meetings of the Democratic services committee,
  - To make informed and balanced decisions, within the terms of reference of the committee, which accord with legal, constitutional and policy requirements
- **Internal governance, ethical standards and relationships**

- To ensure the integrity of the committee's decision making and of his/ her own role by adhering to the Code of Conduct(s) and other constitutional and legal requirements
- To promote and support good governance by the Council
- To understand the respective roles of members, officers and external parties operating within the Democratic Services committee's area of responsibility

### **3 Values**

- To be committed to the values of the Council and the following values in public office:
  - Openness and transparency
  - Honesty and integrity
  - Tolerance and respect
  - Equality and fairness
  - Appreciation of cultural difference
  - Sustainability

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## **MEMBER DEVELOPMENT CHAMPION - ROLE DESCRIPTION**

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### **1. Accountabilities**

To Democratic Services Committee.  
To Council.

### **2. Role Purpose and Activities**

Key responsibilities are:

- to work alongside the Head of Democratic Services and the Corporate Learning Development Manager in drawing up the Councillor Development Programme and to ensure that appropriate support is available to deliver the programme to members.
- to lead on and actively promote the relevance and importance of the Programme within the Council;
- with the assistance of Members of the Democratic Services Committee to raise the profile of member development within the Council and to actively encourage Councillors to attend training and development events organised for them;
- to consult with colleagues in other authorities and identify areas of good practice;
- to engage with the Welsh Local Government Association who take the lead and support authorities in providing development opportunities for Councillors.
- to informally monitor Councillors' views of the development program and the opportunities provided and attended;
- in liaison with the Head of Democratic Services and the Corporate Learning Development Manager, to monitor the performance, resourcing, relevance and, quality of the development opportunities provided
- To act as an ambassador for the DS committee, facilitating understanding of the Committee's role in member development

Desirable skills include:

- the ability to think strategically;
- good interpersonal skills;
- the ability to communicate effectively;
- a commitment to enhance and extend knowledge and skills across subject areas and cross-cutting issues;
- skills in the use of ICT, including electronic communication;