

Introduction of Role Profiles

Summary

1. This report puts before members a range of individual role profiles for members which have been drafted with a view to them being formally adopted by Council.

Background

Member Role Profiles

2. The existence of role profiles for Local Authority Members are considered good practice by the ID&eA and are a key requirement if the Authority is to realise its ambition to gain Charter status.

In recent years a growing number of authorities have successfully introduced role profiles for their members and role profiles are seen as a valuable tool in:

- Providing prospective candidates at election with a clear explanation of the various responsibilities, knowledge and skills associated with being an elected member
 - Providing existing members with a framework with which to measure their personal development needs.
 - Providing the Council's Independent Remuneration Panel who periodically review Members allowances with a clear perspective on the range of skills and responsibilities associated with the individual roles attracting Special Responsibility Allowances. Having access to this information would assist the IRP in making their recommendations on the level of allowances paid to members.
3. Attached at Annex A, is a suggested list of role profiles which might be considered applicable to York and its structural requirements. Members may wish to consult within their Groups on appropriate role profiles for York.

4. Examples of role profiles adopted by Medway and Kirklees, are set out in Annexes B and C to this report for Members initial consideration. All the Authorities mentioned have gained Charter status. Mostly, the role profile for a Ward Councillor is used as the foundation for all other roles.

Consultation

5. In arriving at the proposed role profiles, extensive consultation has taken place with relevant councillors and key officers across a range of authorities. Consultation still needs to take place within this Council on draft profiles once they are initially developed.

Options

6. (a) To support, in principle, subject to further Group and Council consultation, the introduction of role profiles; or

(b) To reject the idea of role profiles for Members of City of York Council, on the understanding that it might be detrimental to the Council's case for achieving Charter Status.

Corporate Priorities

7. The introduction of role profiles for York's elected members directly supports the Council's Corporate aim of providing of strong leadership, supporting and developing people and encouraging improvement in everything we do.

Implications

8. There are no known implications associated with the contents of this report.

Risk Management

9. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy, the only risk associated with the contents of this report would be the failure to gain Charter Status if the Council were not ultimately to introduce role profiles for its Members.

Recommendation

10. Members are asked to support the introduction of role profiles for Members, subject to further consultation and to invite officers to report back with draft profiles, along the lines of Annex A, at the next meeting.

Reason

11. In order to comply with the requirement of the ID&eA Charter.

Contact Details

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Report Approved

Date 15/112009

Specialist Implications Officer(s)

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers:

None.

Annexes:

Annex A – List of proposed role profiles for York.

Annex B – Example of elected member role profiles for Medway Council

Annex C – Example of elected member role profiles for Kirklees Council