



ROLE DESCRIPTION

COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCILLOR E. STEPHENS

This Role Description covers your role as:

- An Elected Member
- Member representing the Executive on the:
 - Welsh Language Steering Group
- Member of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee
- Member of the Democratic Services Committee
- Participant in appropriate Member Development

YOUR ROLE AS AN ELECTED MEMBER

Accountabilities:

- To Full Council
- To the Electorate

Role Purpose and Activity:

Representing and Supporting Your Constituents and Communities:

- To represent your Electoral Division's interests.
- To be an advocate for the Council in your Electoral Division and communities that you serve.
- To be a channel of communication to the community on Council strategies, policies, services and procedures.
- To represent individual constituents and local organisations, undertaking casework on their behalf and serving all fairly and equally.
- To liaise with Executive Members, other Council Members, Council Officers and partner organisations to ensure that the needs of the local communities are identified, understood and supported.
- To promote tolerance and cohesion in local communities.
- To respond to any public questions (as and when required) at Council meetings

Making Decisions and Overseeing Council Performance:

- To participate in full Council meetings, reaching and making informed and balanced decisions, and overseeing performance.
- To adhere to the principles of democracy and collective responsibility in decision making.
- To promote and ensure efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of Council and other public services.
- To be aware of and support the Council in its compliance with the Corporate Safeguarding Policy

Link to the policy:

<http://inform/en/policiesandprocedures/otherpolicies/corporatesafeguardingpolicy.pdf>

Representing the Council

- To represent the Council on local partnership bodies, promoting common interest and co-operation for mutual gain (as appointed).
- To represent and be an advocate for the Council on National bodies and at National events (as appointed).

Representing the Executive

- To represent the Executive on the following:-
 - Welsh Language Cabinet Steering Group
- To represent the Council on local partnership bodies, promoting common interest and co-operation for mutual gain (as appointed).
- To represent and be an advocate for the Council on National bodies and at National events (as appointed).

YOUR ROLE AS A MEMBER OF THE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Accountabilities:

- To Full Council
- The Public
- External Regulatory Bodies
- To the Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Responsibilities:

- To attend and participate in meetings of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to be familiar with its terms of reference
- To assist in the direction and leadership for the Scrutiny process, alongside continuously reviewing its performance within the wider Council framework for political decision making.
- To actively engage in the production of a Work Programme for the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the Working Groups, as appropriate.
- To regularly attend meetings of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and or Working Groups arising therefrom, as appropriate, ensuring that all required work is undertaken appropriately and in reasonable timescales.
- To contribute to the work of the Committee and the Scrutiny Working Groups, as appropriate and necessary.
- To keep abreast of all the issues scheduled for discussion as part of the Cabinet Work Programme, and the Decision Notices arising from the Cabinet meetings and Cabinet Committee meetings, in order to identify possible linkages with the Scrutiny process.
- To attend meetings of the Cabinet and Cabinet Committee meetings when appropriate, in order to support the information presented from Scrutiny, or in connection to the Cabinet Work Programme.
- To exercise the right to call-in for reconsideration of decisions made, but not yet implemented by the Executive, in accordance with Section 17 of Part 4 of the Council's Constitution.
- To hold the Executive to account as appropriate, to ensure continuous improvement in services by:
 - Reviewing and scrutinising the decisions made by and performance of the Executive and/or Committees and Council Officers.
 - Reviewing and scrutinising the performance of the Council in relation to its policy objectives, performance targets and/or particular service areas.
 - Monitoring performance against budget strategy.
- To request Cabinet Members and/or Officers to appear before the Overview & Scrutiny Committee as necessary and appropriate, in order to answer questions on their activities relating to the work of scrutiny.
- To submit evidence/advice/proposals to the Executive and/or appropriate Committee and/or Council arising from the outcome of the Scrutiny process.
- To analyse the implications of the information contained in Budget monitoring reports, in terms of effective management of the Council's resources, and its links with service performance.
- To report to Council and Cabinet on budgetary issues following the statutory consultation process.

- To participate, as required, in the production of an Annual Report detailing the work carried out and achievements of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the Working Groups.
- To actively partake in Member development activities for Scrutiny Members, thus enabling a full and active involvement within the Scrutiny process.
- To monitor the operation and performance of individual services and appropriate external bodies, including joint committees.
- To evaluate whether the policies, strategies and plans the Council has adopted are, over time, actually delivering the outcomes intended for local people.
- To actively engage with the community and local organisations to obtain their views on issues or proposals affecting the area, and if appropriate encourage their attendance at Scrutiny meetings.
- To ensure that the Scrutiny process contributes to the promotion of community well-being and that public services are responsive to the needs of the people.
- To review and scrutinise the performance of external agencies, by developing a partnership approach through collaborative scrutiny methods.
- In accordance with the Designated Persons Order No.1 (the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011) as and when felt appropriate to require information and responses from the appropriate “designated persons” and that those person(s) be invited to attend meeting(s) of the Committee, if so required.
- To identify areas of policy or under-performance in need of improvement, seek expert support, and provide evidence, advice, recommendations and proposals for consideration by the Council or the Executive.
- To receive an annual report in respect of compliance with the Corporate Safeguarding Policy.
- To monitor the operation and performance of any matter within the remit of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and / or Working Groups, affecting the area or its inhabitants, and, if thought necessary, to undertake in-depth investigation measuring outcomes or service delivery arrangements.
- Any other related duties, as assigned by the Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee

YOUR ROLE AS A MEMBER OF THE DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

Accountabilities:

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

Responsibilities:

- Designating the Head of Democratic Services
- Keeping under review the provision of staff, accommodation and other resources made available to the Head of Democratic Services, ensuring that these are adequate.
- Appointing Sub-Committees and Chairs of Sub-Committees to undertake functions delegated by the Committee.
- Consider reports prepared by the Head of Democratic Services
- Developing the Authority's Member 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 functions 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.
- 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.
- To understand the respective roles of Members, Officers and external parties operating within the Democratic Services Committee's area of responsibility.

MEMBER DEVELOPMENT

- To comply with the Council's Code of Conduct and maintain the highest standards of conduct and ethics in the way in which you carry out your duties.
- To attend training in respect of safeguarding children and adults at risk and additional training needs e.g. in relation to your respective role will be addressed as part of your ongoing Personal Development Review.
- To participate in opportunities for development in further understanding your role on Committees/Outside Bodies etc. that you have been appointed to.
- To participate in opportunities for development provided for Members by the Authority.

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

Signed.....E. Stephens.....

Name.....Elyn Stephens.....

Date.....27th November 2019.....