SHADOW EXECUTIVE		
10 JUNE 2008		

SUBJECT	Appointment Of Members To Transitional Task Forces And Of Member Development Champions (To appoint a Member to sit on the Social Care, Health & Housing Transitional Task Force (TTF) and to appoint a replacement on the Customers & Community Engagement TTF, due to the temporary absence of an existing Member. Additionally, to appoint the Member Development Champions for Central Bedfordshire)	
REPORT OF	Interim Monitoring Officer	
Contact Officer: (Kathrin John Tel: 01462 611033)		

#### **IMPLICATIONS**

SUSTAINABILITY	None
FINANCIAL	Travelling allowances may be payable
	to appointed Members attending meetings of the Transitional Task Forces and of the Member Development Champions following the approval of a Scheme of Members'
	Allowances.
LEGAL	None
PERSONNEL/EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES	None
COMMUNITY DEV/SAFETY	None
TRADES UNION	None
HUMAN RIGHTS	None
KEY ISSUE	No
BUDGET/POLICY FRAMEWORK	No

## OTHER DOCUMENTS RELEVANT TO REPORT

Transitional Task Forces Report taken to Shadow Executive 10 April 2008.

## **RECOMMENDATION(S):**

- that Cllr Michael Hearty be appointed to fill the vacancy on the Social Care, Health and Housing Transitional Task Force with immediate effect.
- 2. that CIIr Mrs C F Chapman MBE be appointed to replace CIIr lan Dalgarno on the Customers and Community Engagement Transitional Task Force during his period of absence.

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 that the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council, together with the Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services, Cllr R Stay and the minority Group Leaders be appointed as the Member Development Champions for Central Bedfordshire.

Reason for Recommendation:

To enable a vacancy on the Social Care, Health and Housing Transitional Task Force to be filled and to make arrangements to cover the forthcoming absence of a member of the Customers and Community Engagement TTF. To confirm the appointment of the Member Development Champions for Central Bedfordshire.

# **Background**

#### Transitional Task Forces

- As Members will recall, at the meeting of the Shadow Executive held on 10 April 2008, Members were appointed to serve upon the Transitional Task Forces (TTFs).
- 2. One vacancy remained upon the Social Care, Health and Housing TTF. It was noted that this place was to be filled by a representative of the County Council from either the Independent or Labour groups. Unfortunately it has not been possible for the County Council to agree a nomination from those parties to serve upon the TTF.
- 3. Whilst as informal working groups, there is no requirement for proportionality, it was proposed that the seats be allocated on a broadly proportional basis having regard to the political make-up of the three Constituent Authorities. Seats were also allocated on the basis of two per authority per Task Force so as to ensure that, as far as practicable, each constituent authority was equally represented upon the TTFs.
- 4. As agreement on the filling of the vacancy has not been possible, it falls to the Executive to appoint a Member to serve upon the TTF. The TTFs are informal, non-executive bodies and the Executive does not have to be constrained by the principles previously adopted with regard to political proportionality. In view of the circumstances the Executive may also wish to consider departing from the principle of two Members per authority, per Task Force.

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- 5. Following liaison with the relevant Portfolio holder and Lead Member on the TTF, the Leader wishes to recommend that Cllr Michael Hearty be appointed to the Social Care, Health and Housing TTF with immediate effect.
- 6. The Shadow Executive is also requested to review representation on another TTF. Cllr lan Dalgarno was appointed at the meeting held on 10 April 2008 to the Customers and Community Engagement TTF. Due to forthcoming surgery, Cllr Dalgarno will be unable to perform his duties as a member of the TTF for a period and it is therefore proposed that Cllr Mrs C F Chapman MBE be appointed to replace Cllr Dalgarno on the Task Force during his period of absence.
- 7. In addition, it is proposed that Cllr Mrs C F Chapman MBE work alongside Cllr Dalgarno during the time leading up to his absence. The lead member of the TTF has been consulted with regard to this proposal.

### Member Development Champions

- 8. The joint proposal for Central Bedfordshire recognised the key importance of member training and development in building the capacity of the new unitary authority.
- 9. An officer group has been set up to formulate proposals for member training and development in the new authority and it is now necessary to appoint Members to work with officers to develop those proposals.
- 10. Members may be aware that all three constituent authorities of Central Bedfordshire have been working towards achieving the standards set out in the East of England Regional Charter on Elected Member Development. The Charter provides that there should be top political and managerial leadership commitment to the development of elected members and that Members should be involved in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of member development strategies, ideally through a cross party member group.

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11. Officers have consulted the Leader of the Council as to which Members should be appointed as "Member Development Champions" to work with officers to consider both training needs of Members of the Shadow Council and to formulate proposals for member development in the Central Bedfordshire Unitary Authority. The Shadow Executive is now asked to confirm the appointment of the Member Development Champions as follows:-

Cllr Mrs P E Turner Leader of the Council

Cllr P Penman Deputy Leader of the Council

Cllr M R Jones Portfolio Holder for Corporate

Services

Cllr R Stay Shadow Executive Member

Cllr P Blaine Liberal Democrat Group Leader

Clir J A Gurney Independent Group Leader

Cllr D Ross Labour Group Leader

Background Papers: None

Location of Papers: N/A

File Reference: N/A