
Report To:	The Inverclyde Council	Date: 8 October 2009
Report By:	Corporate Director Regeneration & Resources	Report No: SL/JC/LA/382/09
Contact Officer:	Sharon Lang	Contact No: 01475 712112
Subject:	Council Veterans' Champion - Request by Councillor McCabe	

1.0 INTRODUCTION

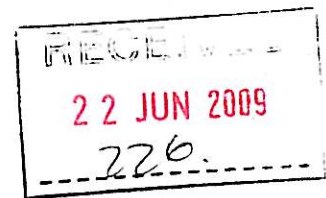
- 1.1 Councillor McCabe has requested that the attached letter from Jeremy Purvis MSP, APPENDIX seeking the Council's support for the appointment of a Veterans' Champion, be considered by the Council.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The Council is asked to consider the request from Councillor McCabe.

Sharon Lang
Legal & Administration

SCOTTISH
PARLIAMENT
CROSS PARTY
GROUP ON
SUPPORTING
VETERANS



18 June 2009

Councillor Stephen McCabe
Inverclyde Council
Municipal Buildings
Greenock
PA15 1LY

Stephen McCabe
Council Veterans' Champions

I am writing in my capacity as Convenor of the Scottish parliament Cross Party Group on Supporting Veterans in Scotland. The Group agreed to write to councils across Scotland with a proposal we have agreed to ask Councils to consider. The Cross Party Group was established to consider devolved areas affecting the lives of our veterans and we are very keen to work in partnership on shared priorities with local authorities.

In this regard at our last meeting we discussed the proposal for each council to nominate a councillor to act as a local 'Veterans' Champion'. We know of many dedicated and active councillors who have volunteered and been nominated to be the local political champion of children and young people and also the elderly. We believe that the advantage of having a network of 'Veteran's Champions' across the councils in Scotland would be huge in developing what I think we all want to see; better services and support for those who have served out country.

I am pleased to say that the proposal has the full support of all the veterans' bodies in Scotland and the Scottish Government and informal discussions with local authorities have been very positive.

The last thing we would want is to be prescriptive as to the specific role and remit but most certainly we would want to have a good relationship with local champions and be keen to discuss with local partners the work that the Cross Party is doing. With this in mind I am hosting a reception in the Parliament in early October with all the veterans' bodies and the three services, at which we would love any locally nominated champions to attend. I hope very much that your council might find time to consider and discuss our proposal; and to consider the nomination of a local Champion. We would of course be very happy to discuss any aspect of this proposal further.

*But also
many*
Jeremy Purvis MSP
Convenor



Jeremy Purvis MSP
Member of the Scottish Parliament for Tweeddale, Ettrick & Lauderdale

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