



<b>Title of Report:</b>	<b>Appointment of an Age Friendly Champion</b>
<b>Committee Report Submitted To:</b>	Leisure & Development Committee
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	17 February 2026
<b>For Decision or For Information</b>	For Decision
<b>To be discussed In Committee</b>	<b>NO</b>

<b>Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)</b>	
Strategic Theme	Resilient, healthy & engaged communities
Outcome	Citizens will have access to Council recreational facilities and protected natural environments which help them to develop their physical, emotional and cognitive health.
Lead Officer	Head of Sport & Wellbeing

<b>Estimated Timescale for Completion</b>	
Date to be Completed	

<b>Budgetary Considerations</b>	
Cost of Proposal	n/a
Included in Current Year Estimates	<b>YES/NO</b> n/a
Capital/Revenue	
Code	
Staffing Costs	

<b>Legal Considerations</b>	
Input of Legal Services Required	<b>NO</b>
Legal Opinion Obtained	<b>NO</b>

<b>Screening Requirements</b>	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	n/a
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	n/a
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes/No	n/a
	RNA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	n/a
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	n/a
	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	n/a

## **1.0 Purpose of Report**

**The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval for the appointment of an Age Friendly Champion for Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council via D'Hondt or another method as recommended by members of the Leisure & Development Committee.**

## **2.0 Background**

2.1 In June 2020, Council approved the offer of funding from the Public Health Agency to recruit and host an Age Friendly Co-ordinator for Causeway Coast and Glens. As a result, Council engaged with community planning partners to develop an Ageing Well Model.

2.2 In June 2024 the associated Strategy and Action Plan for Council was approved by the PHA and adopted by Council and work has been progressing to deliver on the key actions contained within the plan.

2.3 In January 2026 Council adopted the Notice of Motion brought forward by Councillor Elder and seconded by Councillor Kennedy as follows;

*"This Council recognises the importance of promoting positive ageing and ensuring that older people across Causeway Coast and Glens are valued, respected, and supported to live healthy, active, and connected lives. We also recognise the success of our Age Friendly Strategy and Action Plan, and the growing number of residents aged fifty and over in our Borough. In light of this, I would request that an elected member be formally nominated to take on the role of Age Friendly Champion, providing leadership and ensuring continued focus on this important area"*

## **3.0 Next steps**

3.1 In line with the adoption of the Notice of Motion Members now need to consider a nomination for this role.

3.2 To note wording contained within the NOM it is expected that the Champion will provide;

*"...a dedicated and inclusive voice within the Council chamber, supporting a joined up approach between elected members, officers, and community partners. This role would help ensure that the voices and lived experiences of older people from across the whole community continue to inform our decisions and priorities, now and into the future".*

3.3 The selection process for nominating an elected member for a position would ordinarily be via D'Hondt.

3.4 Update reports on the progress of the Age Friendly Action Plan will continue to be reported via the Community Planning process and relevant reports to the Leisure and Development Committee and Council. To this end, Members may wish to consider whether the selection process for the Age Friendly Champion is aligned to membership of the Leisure & Development Committee to provide a supporting voice for any decision reports that may come to the committee in the future.

## **4.0 Recommendation(s)**

Members are asked to consider the content of this report and recommend to Full Council that;

- a) The Age Friendly Champion is appointed via D'Hondt from the full membership of Council.

Or

b) The Age Friendly Champion is appointed via D'Hondt from the membership of the L&D committee.

Or

c) The appointment is made via another method as agreed by the committee.