

**EX83. SCRUTINY PANEL – CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:
APPOINTMENT OF ELECTED MEMBERS TO OUTSIDE
ORGANISATIONS**

The Executive considered a report by the Chief Governance Officer presenting the scrutiny committee's recommendations in regard to a scrutiny panel review of elected member participation on outside organisations.

The scrutiny committee established a scrutiny panel, in November 2013, to examine the appointment of elected members to external organisations and the process for reporting to the Council. The panel reported its findings to the committee on 31 October 2014 (ref SC42) and these, together with a recommendation from the committee in regard to reporting to Council, were presented to the Executive for consideration.

The panel, comprising Provost Reid and Councillors Black and McLuckie, met on 3 occasions and had, as part of its review, issued three surveys to inform its deliberations.

The panel recommended the following three principles in regard to the appointment of elected members to outside bodies, namely:-

- (i) where there is a strategic benefit to the Council in appointing to a national or regional body (such as COSLA), it would be appropriate to consider making such an appointment. However, each request should be considered on a case by case basis;
- (ii) for those organisations which fall within the Following the Public Pound regime Council does not appoint an elected member to the organisation; and
- (iii) where the organisation does not operate at a strategic level and is not funded/part- funded by the Council, Council should consider each request on a case by case basis to ensure that an appointment would benefit the Council.

The panel also considered that appropriate training should be provided, by the Council, or the organisation, when an appointment is made to ensure that the Council's representative is fully able to undertake their role.

The panel provided a summary of its recommendations in regard to each of the Council's appointments to those outside organisations within the scope of its review having applied the principles set out above.

The panel's recommendations were considered and approved by the scrutiny committee on 31 October 2014 and these, together with a recommendation from the scrutiny committee that reporting back should take place and should be done through the inclusion of outside organisations' minutes in the Minute Volume were before the Executive.

In terms of the Scheme of Delegation the appointment of members to outside bodies is reserved for Council and as such the Executive was invited to consider the committee's recommendations and refer these to Council.

Provost Reid, as both chair of the panel and convener of the scrutiny committee provided an overview of the work of the panel and of the recommendations before the Executive.

Decision

The Executive agreed to recommend to Council that:-

- (1) the following principles be adopted in regard to the appointment of elected members to outside organisations:**
 - (i) where there is strategic benefit to the Council in appointing to a national or regional body (such as COSLA), it would be appropriate to consider making such an appointment. However, each request should be considered on a case by case basis;**
 - (ii) for those organisations which fall within the Following the Public Pound regime Council does not appoint an elected member to the organisation; and**
 - (iii) where the organisation does not operate at a strategic level and is not funded by the Council, Council should consider each request on a case by case basis to ensure that an appointment would benefit the Council.**
- (2) based on these principles, Council considers the recommendations in respect of current appointments, set out in appendix 5 of the appended report;**
- (3) when appointments are made training should be available – by the organisation and/or Council to ensure that the elected members are fully able to undertake the role of Council representative; and**
- (4) reporting back should take place and should be done through the inclusion of outside organisations' minutes in the minute volume.**