

**FALKIRK COUNCIL**

**Subject: RESIGNATION OF ELECTED MEMBER**  
**Meeting: FALKIRK COUNCIL**  
**Date: 24 JUNE 2015**  
**Author: CHIEF GOVERNANCE OFFICER**

**1. PURPOSE**

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to advise of the resignation of John McNally as an elected member of Falkirk Council and to invite Council to consider appointing to those vacant committee positions which arise as a consequence of this resignation.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 Following his election as a member of the UK Parliament on 7 May 2015, John McNally formally resigned as a member of Falkirk Council with effect from 1 June 2015. A by-election will be held on 13 August 2015 to elect a successor.
- 2.2 Until 31 May 2015, Councillor McNally was a member of the Licensing Board and the Planning and Civic Licensing Committees. With his resignation there is a vacancy on each body. Members will recall that Council agreed the political proportionality of these bodies at its meeting on 18 May 2012 and as such any successor should be a member from the SNP Group.
- 2.3 For any member appointed to the Licensing Board, and before taking part in any proceedings of the Board, there is a statutory requirement to undergo accredited training. The training must be completed within 3 months of appointment, failing which the appointment will fall. In addition, Council also agreed on 18 May 2012 to require any new member appointed to both the Civic and Planning Committees to undergo training prior to attending their first meeting of these committees.
- 2.4 Council may wish to appoint to the vacant positions today. It may, however, wish to await the outcome of the by-election in August to determine the appointments. If it is minded to await the outcome of the by-election there would be a period, from August to 7 October (when Council is next scheduled to meet), in which the positions would not be filled.
- 2.5 Council considered such an eventuality in 2004 (ref FC9(c)) and agreed 'that vacancies created by a by-election be filled by agreement among the Provost, Group Leaders and representatives of Independent members, taking into account the political proportionality and the representations of the member elected until ratified at the next meeting of Council.'

**3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

Council is invited to:-

- (1) note the resignation of John McNally as a member of Falkirk Council;
- (2) note the vacancies which arise on the Licensing Board and the Planning and Civic Licensing Committees as a consequence and consider how it wishes to deal with them.

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Chief Governance Officer

Date: 5 June 2015

Contact Officer: Brian Pirie, Tel: 01324 506110

**LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

1. Resignation letter dated 25 May 2015.