

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Subject: APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES
Meeting: FALKIRK COUNCIL
Date: 22 JUNE 2011
Author: ACTING DIRECTOR OF LAW AND ADMINISTRATION SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this Report is to:

- note the political composition of the Council following the recent Ward 1 (Bo'ness and Blackness) by election,
- advise of resignations from committees by Councillor Angus MacDonald and Councillor Alan Nimmo, and
- fill the vacant committee positions previously held by Councillor MacDonald, Councillor Nimmo and by the late Councillor John Constable.

2. POLITICAL COMPOSITION

2.1 Following the election of Sandy Turner, SNP, to serve as local Member for Ward 1 (Bo'ness and Blackness), the political composition of the Council remains unchanged, as follows:-

Labour	14
SNP	13
Conservative	2
Independent	2
Independent not aligned to any group	1

2.2 Consequently, the Council's political proportionality, as agreed at the statutory meeting on 18 May 2007 for the purpose of committee membership, also remains unchanged. It follows that the positions held previously by the late Councillor Constable and by Councillors MacDonald and Nimmo fall again to be filled from the same political Groups.

3. VACANCIES/RESIGNATIONS

3.1 A vacancy has existed on each of the following Committees since the passing of Councillor John Constable earlier in the year:-

- Appeals
- Appointments

- Environment and Community Safety
- Housing and Social Care
- Leisure Tourism and Community
- Planning

3.2 In addition, following his election to the Scottish Parliament, Councillor Angus MacDonald intimated his resignation from the following Committees with effect from 21 June:-

- Economic Strategy and Development
- Education
- Housing and Social Care
- Investment
- Planning

3.3 A vacancy also arises on Policy and Resources Committee following the resignation therefrom of Councillor Alan Nimmo

3.4 Vacancies therefore exist as follows:-

Committee	Number of Vacancies
Appeals	1
Appointments	1
Economic Strategy and Development	1
Environment and Community Safety	1
Housing and Social Care	2
Leisure Tourism and Community	1
Investment	1
Planning	2
Policy and Resources	1

3.5 Council agreed in May 2007 to introduce compulsory training for members appointed to the Planning Committee. Suitable training arrangements will accordingly be put in place for newly appointed members, if required.

3.6 The Council's decision making structure provides that a member of Policy and Resources Committee cannot also sit on any of the scrutiny committees. In appointing to the vacant position on that committee, therefore, there may be a need for Council to consider consequential resignations from other committees.

4. RECOMMENDATION

Council is invited to:

- (i) appoint a member from the Labour Group to the vacant position on the Policy and Resources Committee;
- (ii) consider and deal with any further resignations consequent on that appointment, and
- (iii) appoint members from the SNP Group to the remaining committees detailed in paragraph 3.3 above.

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Acting Director of Law and Administration Services

Date: 7 June 2011

Contact Officer: Brian Pirie tel (01324 506110)

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Resignation Letter