

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Subject: APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS
Meeting: FALKIRK COUNCIL
Date: 26 SEPTEMBER 2012
Author: CHIEF GOVERNANCE OFFICER

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to (a) advise Council of a request by COSLA to nominate a member to each of its Executive Committees; (b) advise of resignations by (i) Councillor Buchanan as the Council's representative on the Edinburgh Airport Consultative Committee and (ii) Councillor MacDonald as one of the Council's representatives on the Fife and Forth Valley Community Justice Authority ("the CJA"); (c) invite Council to nominate a successor to each body, and (d) invite Council to consider appointing a third substitute member to the CJA.

2. COSLA – EXECUTIVE GROUPS

- 2.1 The Convention of Scottish Local Authorities, COSLA, is the representative face of Scottish local government and also acts as the employers' association on behalf of all 32 Scottish Councils. Members will recall that Council appointed Depute Provost Patrick and Councillors C Martin, Gow and Alexander to the COSLA Convention at the Statutory Meeting in May 2012.
- 2.2 COSLA's overall policy direction is provided by the Convention. COSLA has also established 6 Executive Groups to allow core work to be progressed. Each Group is aligned to an area of themed work with a COSLA appointed spokesperson as Chair. Each local authority is represented on each Executive Group.
- 2.3 The table below summarises the areas of work covered by each Executive Group and sets out the meetings arrangements to 31 December 2012.

Name of Executive Group	Area of Work	Dates of Meetings 2012
Community Well-being and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing and Homelessness • Community Justice and Safety • Community Empowerment • Poverty and Employability • Welfare Reform • Sport Culture and Leisure • Migration and Refugee Issues 	20 November

Name of Executive Group	Area of Work	Dates of Meetings 2012
Education, Children, and Young People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated children's services • Early intervention and prevention • Outcomes for looked after children • 3-18 education 	12 December
Health & Well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint accountability, with the Scottish Government, for key policy initiatives including free personal care • Developing the contribution of unpaid care and volunteering • Developing high quality commissioning and more efficient care procurement • Working towards a less cluttered landscape • Ensuring people have choice and control over their care • Identifying and addressing emerging resource pressures • Consolidating the relationship between Local Authorities and the NHS 	3 December
Regeneration and Sustainable Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic development, tourism, relations with small and medium sized enterprises • Utilities including Scottish Water, and renewables • Environmental matters, including biodiversity • Planning policy, physical regeneration and climate change adaption • Roads transport policy and links to Regional Transport Partnerships • Management of COSLAS European Function 	29 November

Name of Executive Group	Area of Work	Dates of Meetings 2012
Resources and Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial impact of welfare reform • Efficient Government • Spending Review • Capital and infrastructure investment • Taxation • Pensions • Settlement and distribution issues 	<p>2 October</p> <p>5 December</p>
Strategic Human Resources Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Securing affordable sustainable pay settlements • Developing progressive solutions to pay and reward that value, motivate and appropriately reward staff • Working to ensure that Council's employment policies, pay and grading structures, and working practices deliver equality of opportunity and are free of biases and respond to legislative developments • Supporting initiatives which add value for councils through a modern and progressive workforce including shared services • Helping Councils respond effectively to the structural financial and demographical challenges they face • Positioning Scottish local government on an employer of choice 	<p>3 October</p> <p>6 December</p>

2.4 Council is invited to appoint a member to each of the Executive Groups.

2.5 Members should note that the Community Well-being & Safety, Education, Children and Young People, Regeneration and Sustainable Development and Health & Well-being Executive Groups met in September prior to this meeting of Council. As an interim measure the Conveners of those Scrutiny Committees with remits closest to the Executive Groups in question were invited by COSLA to attend the relevant Executive Group.

3. EDINBURGH AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

- 3.1 Councillor Buchanan has intimated his resignation from the Edinburgh Airport Consultative Committee and Council is invited to appoint a successor.
- 3.2 The Committee meets quarterly, with the final meeting of this year on 13 November 2012. The role of the Committee is to:
- enable the operators of Edinburgh Airport, communities in the vicinity, local authorities, local business representatives, airport users and other interested parties to exchange information and ideas
 - allow the concerns of interested parties to be raised and taken into account by the airport operators
 - complement the legal framework within which the airport operates

4. FIFE AND FORTH VALLEY COMMUNITY JUSTICE AUTHORITY

- 4.1 Councillor MacDonald has intimated his resignation from the CJA and Council is invited to appoint a successor.
- 4.2 The CJA is a public sector agency whose purpose is to reduce re-offending and create safer communities. CJAs are statutory bodies created by the Management of Offenders etc (Scotland) Act 2005. CJAs are locally accountable through elected members to the communities they serve, thus ensuring that the priorities of the CJAs are locally determined and that their outcomes and activities are subject to local scrutiny. The CJA also distributes funding for criminal justice activities.
- 4.3 The CJA consists of 10 elected members (4 from Fife, 3 from Falkirk, 2 from Stirling and one from Clackmannanshire). It normally meets four times a year to approve and scrutinise the authority's work which is delivered by the Chief Officer and its strategic management group. The final meeting of this year will be held on 17 December.
- 4.4 Council agreed, at its Statutory Meeting, to allocate membership of the CJA as - 1 Labour Group/1 SNP Group/1 Independent Group. It follows that Councillor MacDonald's successor should be a member of the Labour Group.

Substitute

- 4.5 As noted in the preceding paragraph, the allocation of places on the CJA was determined by Council on 18 May. While one of the places was allocated to the Independent Group, it has not been taken up leaving a vacancy in the Council's complement of places. Where such a vacancy exists, the Community Justice Authorities (Establishment, Constitution and Proceedings)(Scotland) Order 2006 authorises the Council to appoint another member to attend in the vacant place. For the purposes of the Order, the person so appointed shall, while holding that appointment, be deemed to be a member of the CJA.

- 4.6 Council has already appointed two substitute members to the CJA, Councillors Meiklejohn and Paterson. Council is invited to consider appointing a third substitute for the purpose of covering the vacancy and ensuring that the Council's interests on the CJA are protected.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Council is invited to:

5.1.1 appoint a representative to:-

- (1) each of the COSLA Executive Groups;**
- (2) the Edinburgh Airport Consultative Committee; and**
- (3) the Fife and Forth Valley Community Justice Authority, and**

5.1.2 consider the appointment of a third substitute member to the CJA.

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Chief Governance Officer
Date: 21 September 2012
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LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. External Organisations File