

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Subject: APPOINTMENTS – COSLA and SEStran
Meeting: FALKIRK COUNCIL
Date: 17 DECEMBER 2014
Author: CHIEF GOVERNANCE OFFICER

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to request that Council confirms the appointment of Councillor Blackwood as its representative on the COSLA Criminal Justice Working Group and considers appointing members to the South East Scotland Transport Partnership (SEStran).

2. BACKGROUND

COSLA Community Justice sub group

- 2.1 In October 2014, the COSLA Community Well Being Executive Group established a sub group to act as a sounding board to inform its deliberations in regard to the redesign of Community Justice.
- 2.2 Council was invited to nominate a representative or provisional representative no later than 27 October 2014 in order to allow the group to meet and begin its work. The first meeting is scheduled for 15 December. The group will determine its meetings cycle and its remit at this meeting.
- 2.3 Councillor Blackwood, as public protection portfolio holder, was asked to attend the meeting pending a formal decision by Council. Council is now invited to confirm its nominee to the sub group.

The South East Scotland Transport Partnership (SEStran)

- 2.4 The South East Scotland Transport Partnership (SEStran) is one of 7 regional transport partnerships in Scotland. SEStran covers 8 local authority areas; Scottish Borders, City of Edinburgh, East Lothian, Mid Lothian, West Lothian, Clackmannanshire, Fife and Falkirk. SEStran was established as a statutory body in 2005, tasked with producing a regional transport strategy for South East Scotland. Two key objectives underpin the Strategy - the sustainable development of the area in a less car dependent manner and the widening of access for all areas and groups.
- 2.5 The work of SEStran is governed by the SEStran Partnership Board which consists of 20 elected members from the partnership local authorities and 8 appointed members. There are 2 places on the Board for Falkirk Council members. Additionally, Council may appoint 2 named substitutes. Appointments are normally for the lifetime of the Council but may be terminated by Council decision.
- 2.6 The Board meets every 2 months. In addition members of the Board may be appointed to Committees which meet twice yearly.

- 2.7 Council appointed Baillie Buchanan to the board of SEStran at its statutory meeting on 14 May 2012. Councillor Coleman was appointed on 20 June 2012 together with Councillors D Goldie and McNally as the named substitutes. Councillor Goldie resigned from the position in September 2013. At that time, Council decided to make no appointment until the outcome of the scrutiny panel review of appointments to outside organisations was finalised. In the meantime, Baillie Buchanan has also resigned.
- 2.8 As Council is today considering the findings of the scrutiny panel it may also wish to consider whether to appoint members to the vacant substantive and substitute positions on SEStran.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 Council is requested to consider its nomination to the COSLA Community Justice sub group and, in light of any decision taken earlier in the meeting in regard to external bodies, appoint to the vacant substantive and substitute positions on the SEStran board.

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Chief Governance Officer
Date: 6 December 2014
Contact Officer: Brian Pirie, 506110

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. COSLA Community Justice subgroup file
2. Outside organisations file.

Any person wishing to inspect the background papers listed above should telephone Falkirk 01324 506110 and ask for Brian Pirie, Democratic Services Manager.