Agenda Item 11 **Appointment to Committees** and Other Bodies

Falkirk Council

Title: Appointment to Committees and Other Bodies

Meeting: Falkirk Council

Date: 7 December 2016

Submitted By: Director of Corporate & Housing Services

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise of a vacancy which has arisen on the Planning Committee and to ask Council to consider filling the vacancy. The report also advises that the Scottish Parliament seeks appointment of a Council representative on the recently re-established Cross Party Group on Poland.

2. Recommendation

2.1 It is recommended that Council:-

- (i) notes the resignation of Councillor Alan Nimmo from the Planning Committee;
- (ii) considers appointing a member to the vacant position, and
- (iii) considers appointing a member to the Scottish Parliament's Cross Party Group on Poland.

3. Planning Committee

- 3.1 Councillor Nimmo intimated his resignation from the Planning Committee on 23 November 2016. Therefore a vacancy has arisen on the committee. In accordance with the Council's decision on political proportionality taken at the meeting of 18 May 2012, the vacancy falls to be filled by a member of the Labour Group.
- 3.2 In considering an appointment to the Planning Committee it should be noted that Council agreed on 18 May 2012 that members of the committee must undergo training before participating as a member of the committee.

4. Cross Party Group on Poland

4.1 The Scottish Parliament has recently re-established a Cross Party Group on Poland which is anticipated to meet up to four times per year. An invitation has been received which seeks representation from the Council on the group.

4.2 Scotland has an established and growing Polish population and Local Government can play an important role in fostering good relationships with Polish communities. The group's first meeting, on Tuesday 24 January 2017, will include a discussion on Brexit and development of a work programme.

5. Consultation

5.1 This report has not been subject to consultation.

6. Implications

Financial

6.1 There are no financial implications arising from the report.

Resources

6.2 There are no resource implications arising from the report.

Legal

6.3 There are no legal implications arising from the report.

Risk

6.4 There are no risk implications arising from the report.

Equalities

6.5 An equality and poverty impact assessment was not carried out.

Sustainability/Environmental Impact

6.6 No sustainability assessment has been completed as part of compiling the report.

7. Conclusions

7.1 Following Councillor Nimmo's resignation from the Planning Committee Council is invited to consider appointing to the vacant position. Council is also invited to consider appointing a member to the Cross Party Group on Poland.

Date: 29 November 2016

Appendices

None.

List of Background Papers:

The following papers were relied on in the preparation of this report in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973:

- Resignation Letter
- Cross Party Group on Poland Invitation