

FALKIRK COUNCIL

**Subject: REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS –
CORNTON VALE OVER 21s PRISON VISITING COMMITTEE**
Meeting: FALKIRK COUNCIL
Date: 8 December 2010
**Author: ACTING DIRECTOR OF LAW AND ADMINISTRATION
SERVICES**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise that Falkirk Council has four places currently vacant on the Cornton Vale Over 21's Prison Visiting Committee and to appoint new members from the Falkirk Council area.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The composition of the Visiting Committee is set out in the Prison and Young Offenders Institutions (Scotland) Rules 2006. Of the 15 visitors on the Committee, 6 are to be appointed by Falkirk Council (with Stirling Council appointing 7 members and Clackmannanshire Council appointing 2). Of these no less than 2 should be lay members - that is, not elected members of the Council. Council has in the past, and most recently in June 2007, appointed both lay members and elected members to the Visiting Committee. In 2007 Council, in considering appointments to external organisations, agreed to appoint 5 lay visitors and one elected member (Provost Reid). The vacancies referred to in this Report arise from the departure of lay members.
- 2.2 A recruitment exercise was undertaken with a view to appointing 4 members to the Visiting Committee. The appointments will be until the next Local Government elections in 2012. Information was placed on the Council website and within One Stop Shops. The closing date for applications was 29 September 2010. A total of four applications were received.
- 2.3 On 25 November 2010 three applicants were interviewed by a panel consisting of the Convener and Vice Convener of the Visiting Committee and Provost Reid. Each applicant was of a high standard and each has been recommended by the interview panel for membership of the Committee. The remaining candidate still requires to be interviewed as she was unable to attend the date set for the interviews. A date will be set for her interview as soon as possible.

3. MEMBERSHIP

3.1 Council is asked to appoint the following persons to serve on the Cornton Vale Visiting Committee as representatives from the Falkirk Council area, subject to the receipt of satisfactory references and appropriate checks through Disclosure Scotland:-

- Ms Audrey Brown;
- Ms Carol Lennie; and
- Ms Janelle Hall.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 The Council is invited to:-

- (a) approve the appointment of Ms Audrey Brown, Ms Carol Lennie and Ms Janelle Hall to serve on Cornton Vale Prison Visiting Committee, subject to the receipt of satisfactory references and appropriate checks through Disclosure Scotland; and
- (b) delegate authority to the Acting Director of Law and Administration Services to appoint the remaining applicant, subject to successful interview and to the receipt of satisfactory references and appropriate checks through Disclosure Scotland.

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Acting Director of Law and Administration Services

Date: 25 November 2010

Contact Officer: Antonia Sobieraj, Committee Services Officer on 01324 501277.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil