

REPORT TO ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL - 26 JANUARY, 2017

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES, CHAIRS AND VICE CHAIRS

1 Recommendations

It is recommended that the Council:-

- (1) **appoints the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the four Policy Committees and the Audit Committee, and**
- (2) **appoints members (and substitute members where required) to the four new Policy Committees (Business Services, Communities, Education and Children's Services and Infrastructure Services) and the Audit Committee, having regard to the political proportionality of the Council.**

2 Background

2.1 The Council on 24 November, 2016 (Item 8) agreed:-

- (1) to continue to use the membership size of the existing committees, such that the four new Policy Committees (Business Services, Communities, Education and Children's Services and Infrastructure Services) would have 14 members and the new Audit Committee would have 12 members, subject to review after May 2017,
- (2) that officers bring forward a report to the January meeting of the Council to appoint chairs, vice-chairs and members (and substitute members) to the four new Policy Committees (Business Services, Communities, Education and Children's Services and Infrastructure Services), the Audit Committee and the Community Empowerment Appeals Committee, having regard to the political proportionality of the Council,
- (3) to appoint the Community Empowerment Appeals Committee with immediate effect as a miscellaneous committee of 8 members (4 Partnership, 3 Alliance, plus one other place allocated amongst the other councillors), with the membership to exclude any member of the policy committee which had considered the application or a member involved at area committee level, and to instruct officers to draw members according to that proportionality dependent on the case involved,
- (4) to make no further changes to the membership of the miscellaneous existing committees, subject to review after May 2017,

2.3 The Council is therefore requested to appoint chairs and vice chairs to the four new Policy Committees (Business Services, Communities, Education and Children's Services and Infrastructure Services) and the Audit Committee.

Given the Council decision regarding membership of the Community Empowerment Appeals Committee set out in 2.1(3) above, it is considered that it is not feasible for the Council to appoint a fixed Chair and Vice Chair of the Community Empowerment Appeals Committee. Instead, the appointment of a Chair will be the first item of business to be considered at each meeting of the Committee.

- 2.2 The Council is also requested to agree the membership (and substitute membership) of the four new Policy Committees and the Audit Committee. In this connection, it should be noted that, whereas the previous Scrutiny and Audit Committee did not have substitutes, the new Scheme of Governance provides for the Audit Committee to have substitutes.
- 2.4 The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report and any comments are incorporated within this report.

3 Equalities, Staffing and Financial Implications

- 3.1 An equality impact assessment is not required because the changes proposed are procedural matters and do not have a differential impact on any of the protected characteristics.
- 3.2 There are no staffing or financial implications arising directly as a result of this report.

Ritchie Johnson
Director of Business Services

Report prepared by:- Alastair Nicol, Principal Committee Officer
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