

REPORT TO KINCARDINE AND MEARN'S AREA COMMITTEE – 03 MARCH 2020

CONFIDENT GOVERNANCE – NOMINATION TO KINCARDINE AND MEARN'S CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

1 Reason for Report / Summary

- 1.1 Councillor Evison, the nominated Aberdeenshire Council representative on the Kincardine and Mearns Citizens Advice Bureau has formally intimated her resignation from this body due to other commitments notably her Presidency of COSLA, the Committee are now requested to consider and nominate her replacement.

2 Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1 **Note Councillor Evison's resignation as Aberdeenshire Council's observer to the Board meetings of the Kincardine and Mearns Citizens Advice Bureau due to her commitments as President of COSLA;**
- 2.2 **Nominate a replacement observer to the Board meetings of the Kincardine and Mearns Citizens Advice Bureau.**

3 Purpose and Decision Making Route

- 3.1 Nominations to outside bodies was considered by the Full Council on 18 May 2017 (Item 8) and it was agreed that the nomination of a representative on the Kincardine and Mearns Citizens Advice Bureau should be delegated to Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee. The Committee agreed to appoint Councillor Evison.
- 3.2 There is now a vacancy for a Council nominee to the Kincardine and Mearns Citizens advice Bureau. Aberdeenshire Council will not be represented on the outside body until a nominated replacement has been appointed.

4 Discussion

- 4.1 Kincardine and Mearns Citizens Bureau is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SC038869) and is run by trustees from the local community.
- 4.2 The purpose of the SCIO is -

to promote any charitable purposes for the public benefit in the geographical area known as Kincardine and Mearns and elsewhere:

- by the advancement of education by providing clients with information, clarification and understanding of legislation and their legal rights and responsibilities.
- the relief of those in need by assessing clients entitlement to welfare benefits, by providing assistance in claiming benefits and by assisting them to appeal against refusal to benefits and by doing so ensure they do not suffer from poverty.
- the advancement of human rights by ensuring that people do not suffer through ignorance of their rights and by taking such actions required to redress the situation and restore justice.
- advancement of health by providing a comprehensive advice service which deals with all aspects of clients problems and alleviates the stress and anxiety caused by unsolved problems.
- advancement of community development by recruiting, training and developing local citizens to be volunteer advisers in the Citizens Advice Bureau who in turn assist members of the public in their community and in doing so contribute to the development of their community.

5 Council Priorities, Implications and Risk

5.1 This report helps deliver Council Priority 1 - Support a strong, sustainable, diverse and successful economy.

This report helps deliver Council Priority 8 - Work to reduce poverty and inequalities within our communities.

This report helps deliver Council Priority 10 – Having the right people, in the right place, doing the right thing, at the right time.

5.2 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed.

Subject	Yes	No	N/A
Financial			X
Staffing			X
Equalities			X
Fairer Scotland Duty			X
Town Centre First			X
Sustainability			X
Children and Young People's Rights and Wellbeing			X

- 5.3 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.
- 5.4 There are no staffing / financial / sustainability / children and young people's rights and wellbeing implications arising directly as a result of the report.
- 5.5 The following Risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Corporate Level:

[Aberdeenshire Corporate Risks](#)

ACORP006 – Reputation Management

6 Scheme of Governance

- 6.1 The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report and had no comments to make and are satisfied that the report complies with the Scheme of Governance and relevant legislation.
- 6.2 The Committee is able to consider, and take a decision on this item, following a decision by Full Council at their meeting of 18 May 2017, (Agenda Item 8) where it was agreed that appointments to those outside bodies referred to in Appendix B *Area Committee Nominations* of the report to Council be made by the Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee.

Ritchie Johnson
Director of Business Services

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Date 17 February 2020