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**REPORT TO: SPECIAL MEETING OF MORAY COUNCIL ON 17 NOVEMBER 2020**

**SUBJECT: APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND OUTSIDE BODIES**

**BY: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (EDUCATION, COMMUNITIES AND ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT)**

**1. REASON FOR REPORT**

- 1.1 To invite the Council to determine the membership of committees, sub-committees, boards and outside bodies and to appoint a Chair and Depute Chair where appropriate.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section II (11) of the Council's Scheme of Administration relating to appointments to Committees

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

**2.1 It is recommended that the Council:-**

- (i) considers the membership of the committees and sub-committees and the political balance of same;**
- (ii) considers vacancies in positions of Chair and Depute Chair (as set out in Section 4) where required;**
- (iii) consider vacancies in appointments to community planning and other partnership bodies, as set out in Section 5 of the report; and**
- (iv) note the current appointments to Outside Bodies, as set out in Appendix 2 of the report.**

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 At the meeting of Moray Council on 17 June 2020, the Council agreed a temporary simplified committee structure which is Full Council and 2 other committees covering the remits of the Depute Chief Executive Roles. The Planning and Regulatory Services Committee, Licensing Board, Licensing Committee, Audit and Scrutiny Committee, Local Review Body, Police and

Fire and Rescue Services Committee and Appeals Committee would continue to meeting as usual. Membership of these committees is detailed in Section 4. These arrangements are to be reviewed on or before 24 February 2021 (para 9 of the Minute refers).

- 3.2 At the meeting of Moray Council on 28 October 2020 (para 12 of the draft Minute refers), the Council were asked to consider a report on political balance of Committees following the resignation of Councillor Taylor from the SNP Group. The Council agreed to defer consideration of this item to allow Group Leaders the opportunity to consider a possible change to the membership number of Committees. Council is reminded that any change to the membership of Committees would require a suspension of standing order 82 (no resolution of the Council shall be altered or revoked within six months of its adoption except by suspension of Standing Orders) as the decision was made by Council on 17 June 2020 which is less than 6 months ago.
- 3.3 A table reflecting political balance according to number of members on committees can be found at **Appendix 1**.

#### **4. CURRENT TEMPORARY COMMITTEE STRUCTURE AND MEMBERSHIP**

4.1 The previous approved structure of the Council is set out below:

(i) Education, Communities and Organisational Development

Membership – currently consists of 14 Members

Chair: Councillor A McLean                      Depute: Councillor Warren

(ii) Economic Growth, Housing and Environmental Sustainability

Membership – currently consists of 14 Members

Chair: Councillor Leadbitter                      Depute: Councillor Nicol

(iii) Audity and Scrutiny

Membership – currently consists of 14 Members

Chair: Councillors Gatt                      Depute: Councillor Ross

(iv) Planning & Regulatory Services Committee

Membership – currently consists of 14 Members

Chair: Councillor Bremner                      Depute: **Vacancy**

(v) Police and Fire and Rescue Services Committee

Membership – Currently consists of 9 Members

Chair: Councillor Coy                      Depute: Councillor Nicol

## **Other**

(vi) Appeals Committee

Membership – Currently consists of 9 Members

Chair: Councillor A McLean      Depute Chair: **Vacancy**

(vii) Joint Consultative Committee

Membership – Currently consists of 7 Members and 7 Trade Union Representatives

Chair: Councillor Leadbitter      Depute: Councillor Coull

(viii) Licensing Committee

Membership – currently consists of 14 Members

Chair: **Vacancy**      Depute: Councillor Nicol

(ix) Licensing Board

Membership – currently consists of 9 Members

Chair: Councillor Cowie      Depute: **Vacancy**

(x) Moray Local Review Body

Membership – currently consists of 9 Members

Chair: **Vacancy**      Depute: Cllr Bremner

(xi) School Placings & Exclusions Appeals Committee

Membership – currently consists of 5 Members and Lay Members (nominated and approved by political parties)

[Minimum Committee consists of 2 Members and 1 Lay Member]

Current members Councillors Coy, Warren, Eagle, Alexander and Ross  
NB – Lay Member must be Chair.

## **Appointments**

(xii) Children & Young People's Services Appointments Committee

(xiii) Communities Appointments Committee

(xiv) Economic Development & Infrastructure Services Appointments Committee

(xv) Planning & Regulatory Services Appointments Committee

(xvi) Policy & Resources Appointments Committee

Membership – currently consists of 9 Members (inc. Chair and Depute Chair of Service Committee)

NB – Chair (or Depute Chair in their absence) of Service Committee chairs the relevant Appointments Committee.

**Sub-Committee**

(xvii) Housing Appeals Sub-Committee

Membership – currently consists of 5 Members, to be drawn from the membership of the Communities Committee for each case

Current members: Councillors Nicol, Coull, Gatt, Creswell and Edwards

NB – Chair appointed at each meeting and Members excluded from sitting on appeals which relate to their Ward.

**5. COMMUNITY PLANNING AND OTHER PARTNERSHIP BODIES**

5.1 (i) Community Planning Board (part of Community Planning Partnership (CPP))

Membership – 15 Community Planning Partners

Current members: Councillors Leadbitter, Warren, Eagle, Alexander and Divers

(ii) Community Engagement Group (part of CPP)

Current members: Councillors Alexander and Leadbitter

(iii) Grampian Valuation Joint Board

Membership – 15 Members (3 Elected Members from Moray Council and 6 Elected Members each from Aberdeenshire Council and Aberdeen City Council)

Current members: Councillors Leadbitter, Ross, Brown  
Substitutes: SNP sub: **Vacancy**, COG/MAG/Lab sub: **Vacancy**  
and Councillor Feaver (sub)

(iv) Moray Adult Protection Committee

Membership – 7 Partners

Current members: Councillors Coy and Powell

(v) Moray Child Protection Committee

Membership – 10 Partners

Current members: Councillors Coy, Warren and Powell

(vi) Moray Integration Joint Board

Membership – 6 (3 Elected Members and 3 NHS Grampian Board representatives)

Current members: Councillors Morrison, Coull, Eagle, **Vacancy**

Subs: Councillors Nicol, Warren, Brown, **Vacancy**

(vii) Northern Roads Collaboration Joint Committee

Membership – 16 Members (2 Elected Members from each of the following Councils: Aberdeenshire; Aberdeen City; Angus; Argyll and Bute; Highland; Moray; Orkney and Western Isles)

Current members: Councillors Coull and Cowie

(viii) Transforming the Council: Programme Board

Current members: Councillors A McLean (Chair), Brown, Cowie and Divers

Ex-officio: Councillors Leadbitter and Morrison

(ix) Transforming the Economy: Programme Board

Current Members: Councillors Leadbitter (Chair), Cowe, Divers and Gatt

Ex-officio: Councillor Morrison

(x) Transforming Learning: Programme Board

Current Members: Councillor Warren (Chair), Alexander, Allan and Ross

Ex-officio: Councillors Leadbitter and Morrison

## 6. **OUTSIDE BODIES**

6.1 Prior to the start of each new political term, all Outside Bodies are written too by Committee Services, asking if they still require representation from the Council.

6.2 A full list of all the Outside Bodies and their current representatives is attached at **Appendix 2** to the report. Members are asked to consider the current appointments to outside bodies and make any necessary changes.

## 7. **SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

**(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP))**

None

**(b) Policy and Legal**

There is no legislation in Scotland governing how Local authority committees should be constituted.

The local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires local authorities in England to give proportionate representation to political groups. A political group is defined there as 2 or more councillors who wish to form a group and who have appointed a leader. This legislation has never been introduced in Scotland. COSLA issued a letter to all newly formed unitary authorities in 1993 highlighting the importance of “party representation” on committees. The Scottish Government have mentioned the introduction of legislation similar to that in England if local authorities do not stick to the spirit of the COSLA letter.

Moray Council has traditionally treated non-aligned councillors collectively as a group but this does not appear to be a requirement of the COSLA letter. Practice varies across Scotland as to how “party representation” is applied to particular circumstances.

**(c) Financial Implications**

Payment of allowances to Members is governed by the Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration) Amendment Regulations 2016 and the Local Government (Allowances and Expenses) (Scotland) Regulations 2007 with maximum rates of payment of remuneration and allowances and expenses being specified by Scottish Ministers.

**(d) Risk Implications**

Impact on strategic management of the business of the Council.

**(e) Staffing Implications**

None

**(f) Property**

None

**(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact**

None

**(h) Consultations**

The Depute Chief Executive (Education, Communities and Organisational Development) and the Head of Governance, Strategy and Performance were consulted on this report.

**8. CONCLUSION**

**8.1 Council is invited to consider the membership of committees, sub-committees, boards and outside bodies and to appoint a Chair and Depute Chair where appropriate.**

Author of Report: Lissa Rowan, Committee Services Officer

Background Papers:

Ref: