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**REPORT TO: MORAY COUNCIL ON 7 DECEMBER 2022**

**SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES**

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

**1. REASON FOR REPORT**

- 1.1 Following the recent by-election in Ward 3: Buckie, the Council are requested to consider proposals regarding allocations for Committees and to make appointments to vacancies on Committees as detailed in the report.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Council 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) consider the proposals regarding allocations for Committees, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report; and**
- (ii) agree that Group Leaders provide the names of appointees to each Committee within 7 days to the Clerk and thereafter that the names provided be recorded as duly appointed to the relevant Committees.**

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 At the by-election held on 3 November 2022, John Stuart was duly elected as a Councillor for Ward 3: Buckie.
- 3.2 As a result of the outcome of the by-election and the change in the political make-up of the Council, the Council needs to consider appointments to Committees. The Council is required to reflect political balance on its committees and current political groupings, taking the SNP Group as a political group of 9, means that the total number of Members on each Committee needs to be reviewed.

#### **4. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES**

- 4.1 At the meeting on the 10 August 2022 the Council agreed the number of Members on each Service Committee remain at 14 (paragraphs 7 and 8 of the Minute refer).
- 4.2 At the meeting on the 28 September 2022 the Council further agreed to defer further consideration of all of the remaining committee vacancies until this meeting following the outcome of the Buckie Ward 3 by-election (paragraph 10 of the Minute refers).
- 4.3 The increase in the membership of the SNP Group results in the following allocations to Committees of 14:
- 5 Administration Members,  
5 SNP Members,  
2 Labour Members; and  
2 Independent Members
- 4.4 As the Scottish Green Party Member and the non-aligned Conservative Member only have a 0.54 allocation each they would not be included within the membership of a committee of 14.
- 4.5 A summary of the impact the by-election result has had on the vacancies that remained as at 28 September 2022 is attached at **Appendix 1**. The Council is asked to consider the proposals as set out in the Appendix.

#### **5. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

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

Effective governance arrangements are key to the development and delivery of the Council's stated priorities and plans.

**(b) Policy and Legal**

The proposals set out in this report comply with Sections (I) (II) & (III) of the Council's Scheme of Administration relating to the delegation of functions to Committees and Sub-Committees, the appointments of Members to these and the appointment of Chair & Deputy Chairs.

**(c) Financial implications**

None arising from this report.

**(d) Risk Implications**

None arising from this report.

**(e) Staffing Implications**

The administration of appointments to Committees and Sub-Committees can be met within existing resources.

**(f) Property**

None arising from this report.

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

None arising from this report.

**(h) Climate Change and Biodiversity Impacts**

None arising from this report.

**(i) Consultations**

Head of Governance, Strategy and Performance has been consulted and any comments incorporated into the report.

**6. CONCLUSION**

**6.1 This report provides proposals for amendments to council committees following the result of the Buckie Ward By-Election.**

Author of Report: Democratic Services Manager

Background Papers: Held by Author

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