

Grampian Valuation Joint Board

The Grampian Valuation Joint Board comprises 15 members who are appointed by the three councils with Aberdeen City Council and Aberdeenshire Council each nominating 6 members and Moray Council 3 members. The Board was established as part of the 1996 reorganisation of local government in terms of The Valuation Joint Boards (Scotland) Order 1995 and is vested with the functions of the three valuation authorities (Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeenshire Council and Moray Council) in the area of the former Grampian Region. When the Board was originally established it was agreed that it would be responsible for electoral registration and convened by a member of Moray Council.

The Board is responsible for appointing the Assessor and Electoral Registration (ERO) and overseeing the administrative side of the valuation and electoral registration process: ensuring that there are sufficient resources to fulfil the valuation and registration functions, monitoring accounts, performance, audit and complaints. The Board and its members cannot however become involved in valuation decisions made by the Assessor. The Assessor has an independent professional valuation role which is required by the courts to be free from external influence. Similar provisions apply to ensure that registration decisions made by the ERO are solely the responsibility of the ERO.

Challenges to the Assessor and ERO's valuation and registration decisions are made to the local valuation appeal committee and sheriff respectively. Complex valuation issues are usually referred to the Lands Tribunal for Scotland and in all cases; valuation for rating, council tax bandings and electoral registration, there is a further appeal available within the Court of Session.

The Board meets four times each year, operates with a total budget of just under £5m and currently has 73 employees based in the Board's offices in Banff, Elgin and Woodhill House. It has its own governance framework, policies, terms and conditions and salary scales. The establishment is wholly service orientated, with back office services such as payroll, HR, audit and finance provided by Moray Council. The Board's IT services are managed by Aberdeenshire Council.

The Clerk to the Board is Roddy Burns, Chief Executive, Moray Council.

The Treasurer (section 95 Officer) to the Board is Lorraine Paisey, Head of Financial Services, Moray Council.

The Assessor and Electoral Registration Officer is Mark Adam.

Neither the Clerk nor Treasurer receives any remuneration for their posts.

Mark Adam (Assessor and Electoral Registration Officer)
2 June 2022