

POLITICAL MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Council on revised political management arrangements and on vacancies which have arisen on the Councils Committees and other outside bodies/organisations.
- 1.2 Changes to the political composition of the Council reflect the recent election of Councillor Kieron Green to represent Ward 5, Oban North and Lorn.
- 1.3 Following the decision made at Council on 21 April 2016 the Executive Director of Customer Services still awaits nominations from the non-Administration members of the Council to fill the current vacancies on the following Committees of the Council:
- Audit Committee – 2 vacancies
 - Performance Review and Scrutiny Committee - 1 vacancy
 - Regulatory Cohort/PPSL Committee – 1 vacancy
 - Argyll and Bute Licensing Board – 1 vacancy
- 1.4 Council is asked to note the intention of the Provost to step down as the Council representative on KIMO and the nomination of Councillor Roddy McCuish as his replacement. Council is further requested to approve this nomination.
- 1.5 Council is asked to note the resignation of the Church of Scotland representative on the Community Services Committee, William Crossan and the impending retiral of Billy Marshall as a non-voting teacher representative on the Community Services Committee with the requirement for a new representative to be elected by teaching staff in due course
- 1.6 The Council is asked to note the nominations received for the Short Life Working Group established for the purpose of considering the future local democratic and governance arrangements of the Council.
- 1.7 The Council is further asked to consider a request for elected member nomination for membership of each of the Health and Social Care Partnership's newly established Locality Planning Groups from the Chief Officer for the Partnership.

POLITICAL MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

2. INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Council on revised political management arrangements and on vacancies which have arisen on the Councils Committees and other outside bodies/organisations.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The Council is invited to:
- a) Note the revised political management arrangements;
 - b) Note the update on existing vacancies on Council Committees;
 - c) Note the intention of the Provost to step down as the Council representative on KIMO;
 - d) Approve the appointment of Councillor Roddy McCuish as the Council representative on KIMO;
 - e) Note the resignation of the Church of Scotland representative on the Community Services Committee, William Crossan;
 - f) Note the impending retiral of Billy Marshall as a non-voting teacher representative on the Community Services Committee and the requirement for a new representative to be elected by teaching staff in due course;
 - g) Note the nominations received for the Short Life Working Group established for the purpose of considering the future local democratic and governance arrangements of the Council;
 - h) Consider nomination of an elected member to each of the Health and Social Care Partnership Locality Planning Groups.

4. DETAIL

4.1 Political Composition

The political composition of the Council has been updated to reflect the recent election of Councillor Kieron Green to represent Ward 5, Oban North and Lorn.

Councillor Green has also confirmed that he has joined The Argyll, Lomond and the Islands Group and will become a member of the Administration.

The updated composition is attached at Appendix 1.

4.2 Vacancies on Committees/Sub- Committees

At the Council meeting on 21st April Council agreed to invite the non-administration members to fill the current vacancies on the following Committees and nominations are still awaited in this regard.

4.2.1 *Audit Committee*

The Audit Committee is comprised of 5 Members, none of which shall be a Policy Lead; and two members who are not Councillors, and who will be respectively Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee. The current membership is –

Martin Caldwell (Chair)
Sheila Hill (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Iain S MacLean
Councillor Michael Breslin
Councillor Richard Trail
Vacancy x 2

4.2.2 *Performance Review and Scrutiny (PRS) Committee*

The PRS Committee is comprised of 11 members, 4 from the opposition, 3 from the administration, 3 Community Planning Partnership nominees and an independent Chair. The current membership is:

Ian MM Ross – Independent Chair
Councillor Gordon Blair
Councillor Anne Horn
Councillor John McAlpine
Councillor Robert E Macintyre
Councillor Donald MacMillan
Councillor Sandy Taylor (Vice –Chair)
Vacancy

And 3 Community Planning Partnership nominees:

Grant Manders, Police Scotland
James Hymas, Fire and Rescue
Jennifer Nicoll, Highlands and Islands Enterprise

Jennifer Nicoll, recently appointed as Area Manager replaces Douglas Cowan as the CPP nominee.

4.2.3 *Regulatory Cohort and PPSL*

The members of the Regulatory Cohort also sit on the Planning, Protective Services and Licensing Committee and consequently a vacancy requires to be filled on both. Members of the Regulatory Cohort become eligible for selection to various Appeals Committees and Local Review Bodies.

The current membership of the Planning, Protective Services and Licensing Committee and Regulatory Cohort (15 Members) is as follows –

Councillor Gordon Blair
Councillor Rory Colville
Councillor Robin Currie
Councillor George Freeman
Councillor David Kinniburgh
Councillor Roddy McCuish
Councillor Alistair MacDougall
Councillor Neil MacIntyre
Councillor Robert G MacIntyre
Councillor Donnie MacMillan
Councillor Alex McNaughton
Councillor Jimmy McQueen
Councillor Sandy Taylor
Councillor Richard Trail
Vacancy

4.2.4 *Licensing Board*

Members of the Argyll and Bute Licensing Board are appointed from the Council's Regulatory Cohort. There are ten members appointed to the Argyll and Bute Licensing Board and currently there is 1 vacancy.

The current membership of the Argyll and Bute Licensing Board is as follows –

Councillor Gordon Blair
Councillor Rory Colville (Chair)
Councillor Robin Currie
Councillor Roddy McCuish
Councillor Alex McNaughton (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Donnie MacMillan
Councillor James McQueen
Councillor Sandy Taylor
Councillor Richard Trail
Vacancy

4.2.5 *Resignations*

The Provost has advised of his intention to step down as the Council representative on KIMO (Kommunenenes International Mlijorganisation) which was founded by local municipalities with a shared concern for the state of the environment. KIMO is designed to give municipalities a political voice at the international level, to share best practice and to find solutions to marine political problems that affect coastal communities. It currently has 80 members representing 150 communities across Europe, Russia, Norway and Sweden and lobbies national Governments, the European Commission and others to take effective actions on issues affecting Northern Seas.

It is proposed that this position is filled by Councillor Roddy McCuish as Depute Policy Lead for Economic Development, European Affairs, Renewables and Strategic Tourism and Council is requested to approve this nomination.

The Council is also advised that the Church of Scotland representative on the Community Services Committee, William Crossan, has recently tendered his resignation and we await nomination from the Presbytery on his replacement.

Billy Marshall, non-voting teacher representative on the Community Services Committee, will be retiring from his teaching post with the Council imminently and this will also require a new representative to be elected by teaching staff in due course.

4.2.6 *Recent Appointments*

At the Council Meeting of 21st April it was also agreed that the Leader of the SNP Council Group would be invited to fill the current vacancies on the Community Services Committee, The Harbour Board and the West of Scotland Archaeological Service and the Argyll Ferry Users Group. These appointments have been advised as follows:

Community Services Committee – Councillor Julie McKenzie
Harbour Board – Councillor John Armour
West of Scotland Archaeological Service – Councillor Isobel Strong
Argyll Ferry Users Group – Councillor John Armour

4.2.7 *Short Life Working Group - future local democratic and governance arrangements*

The Council, at its meeting on 21 April 2016, agreed to the establishment of a Short Life Working Group for the purpose of considering the future local democratic and governance arrangements of the Council, to consider also the detail in the proposed Performance and Scrutiny Review Handbook and how all of this will relate to future governance arrangements, and to bring forward a report to a future meeting of the Council in readiness for the new Council. The Council agreed that the membership of the SLWG to consist of 12 members on an 8 to 4 split between Administration and Opposition members. The Chair of the SLWG to be the Council Leader and Vice Chair the Depute Council Leader.

The following nominations have been received for the 4 opposition places:

Councillor Richard Trail
Councillor James Robb
Councillor Anne Horn
Councillor Sandy Taylor

The Leader and Deputy Leader have been appointed by Council and the 6 other members of the SLWG will be notified at the Council Meeting.

4.2.8 *Locality Planning Groups*

The Council has received a request for elected member nomination for membership of each of the Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership's newly established Locality Planning Groups from the Chief Officer for the Partnership. These groups are responsible for planning the delivery of local health and social care services, and are noted in the Groups' Terms of Reference to be the "engine room" in achieving the vision of the Partnership.

Groups have been established in each of the following localities and Council is asked to consider nominations of a member to each of the Groups:

- Helensburgh and Lomond;
- Dunoon;
- Bute;
- Oban;
- Mull and the Islands (includes Iona, Coll, Tiree and Colonsay) ;
- Mid Argyll;
- Kintyre; and
- Islay and Jura.

5.0 CONCLUSION

Council is invited to note the updated position with regard to political management arrangements including the Council composition and membership of committees, outside bodies and the SLWG on future local democratic and governance arrangements.

Council is invited to note the update on existing vacancies on Council Committees and take steps to remove the risk in terms of effective elected member engagement in decision making processes by making the required appointments.

Council is invited to approve the appointment of Councillor Roddy McCuish as the Council representative on KIMO.

Council is also requested to consider nomination of an elected member to each

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Policy – Appointments to vacant positions will support focus on policy.
- 6.2 Financial – Travel and Subsistence costs of Members attending meetings.
- 6.3 Legal - None
- 6.4 HR - None
- 6.5 Equalities - None
- 6.6 Risk – On-going vacancies pose a risk to effective elected member engagement in decision making processes.
- 6.7 Customer Service - None

Douglas Hendry
Executive Director of Customer Services
13 June 2016

For further information contact: Charles Reppke, Head of Governance & Law 01546 604192

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Argyll and Bute Council Political Composition

**Argyll and Bute Council
Political Composition**

ARGYLL FIRST (2)

Donald Kelly (Con) (Leader of Argyll First)
Douglas Philand (Ind)

THE ARGYLL, LOMOND AND THE ISLANDS GROUP (11)

Rory Colville (LD)
Maurice Corry (Con)
Robin Currie (LD)
Mary Jean Devon
Kieron Green (Ind)
David Kinniburgh (Con)
Roddy McCuish
Aileen Morton (LD)
**Ellen Morton (LD) (Leader of the Argyll, Lomond and the Islands Group)(Depute
Leader of the Council)**
Gary Mulvaney (Con)
Elaine Robertson (Ind)

ALLIANCE OF INDEPENDENT COUNCILLORS (7)

Alistair MacDougall (Ind)
Robert G MacIntyre (Ind)
Donnie MacMillan (Ind)
Alex McNaughton (Ind)
Jimmy McQueen (Ind)
Len Scoullar (Ind) (Provost)
Dick Walsh (Leader of Alliance of Independent Councillors)(Leader of the Council)

SCOTTISH NATIONAL PARTY GROUP (8)

John Armour
William Gordon Blair
Anne Horn
Julie McKenzie
James Robb
Isobel Strong
Sandy Taylor (Leader of SNP Group)
Richard Trail

REFORM GROUP (3)

Michael Breslin (Leader of the Reform Group)
Vivien Dance (Depute Leader of the Reform Group)
Bruce Marshall (Secretary of the Reform Group)

George Freeman (Ind)
Robert E Macintyre (Ind)
Iain Stewart MacLean (Ind)
John McAlpine (Ind)
Neil McIntyre (LAB)

Note:

Ind = Independent

SNP = Scottish National Party

NPA = Not Politically Affiliated

LD = Liberal Democrat

Con = Conservative

LAB = Labour