

MINUTES of MEETING of SHORT LIFE WORKING GROUP ON POLITICAL MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS held in the COUNCIL CHAMBERS, KILMORY, LOCHGILPHEAD on THURSDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER 2016

Present:

Councillor Dick Walsh (Chair)

Councillor Rory Colville	Councillor James Robb
Councillor Robin Currie	Councillor Elaine Robertson
Councillor Anne Horn	Councillor Len Scoullar
Councillor Roderick McCuish	Councillor Sandy Taylor
Councillor Aileen Morton	Councillor Richard Trail
Councillor Ellen Morton	

Attending:

Cleland Sneddon, Chief Executive
Douglas Hendry, Executive Director – Customer Services
Charles Reppke, Head of Governance and Law
Patricia O'Neill, Central Governance Manager
Shirley MacLeod, Area Governance Manager
Graeme Forrester, Area Committee Manager

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were none intimated. It was noted that Councillor Aileen Morton was not present at this point but would join the meeting when she was available.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest intimated.

3. POLITICAL MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The Short Life Working Group considered a report which outlined the proposed timetable and process for the review of Political Management Arrangements.

Councillor James Robb left the meeting during consideration of this item and did not return.

Councillor Aileen Morton joined the meeting during consideration of this item.

Decision

The Short Life Working Group:-

- a) Determined the basic principles for the review of the Political Management Arrangements as detailed at paragraph 4.2 of the submitted report with the addition of a further two principles – Achieving Our Ambition and Future Proofing.
- b) Agreed the timetable for the review and associated reporting arrangements, with a final report being submitted to Council in 2017 subject to the change of a meeting date from 13 October 2016 to 24 October 2016.

- c) Agreed that officers engage with all 36 Elected Members seeking their views on how the current Political Management Arrangements are working, asking for suggestions in terms of any future arrangements and asking for comments on the Scrutiny Handbook which was endorsed by the PRS Committee.
- d) Requested further information on the Committee Structures strategic and local adopted by other Scottish Local Authorities of similar size, population and geographical layout as Argyll and Bute.
- e) Requested further information on how the review of Political Management Arrangements could be affected by the Programme for Scotland Proposals, the Community Empowerment Bill and the Islands Bill.
- f) Requested further information on the Scrutiny arrangements adopted by other Scottish Local Authorities.

(Ref: Report by Executive Director of Customer Services dated 9 August 2016, submitted)