

**MEMBERSHIP OF COSLA**

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**1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Council is currently a member of the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) and as such is entitled to appoint three Members to the Convention.

The report includes detail on the first COSLA Leaders' meeting after the elections and the Convention meeting which will include the election of COSLA's President and Vice President, along with the appointment of Spokespersons.

The Council is invited to appoint three representatives to the Convention for the period up to the next Local Government Elections, having regard to the guidance from COSLA that the delegation should reflect the balance of party political strength within each member council as well as to consider its position with regards to nominations to the appointments of COSLA's President and Vice President.

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**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Council is currently a member of the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) and as such is entitled to appoint three Members to the Convention.

**3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Council is invited:-

- 3.1 to appoint three representatives to the Convention for the period up to the next Local Government Elections, having regard to the guidance from COSLA that the delegation should reflect the balance of party political strength within each member council.
- 3.2 to note that the Leader of the Council will be a Member of the COSLA Leaders' Group.
- 3.3 to consider its position with regards to nominations for the President and Vice President of COSLA .

**4. DETAIL**

- 4.1 The Council will require to appoint three representatives to COSLA for the period up to the next Local Government Elections and should have regard to the guidance from COSLA that the delegation should reflect the balance of party political strength within each member council in making these appointments. COSLA recognises that there is a range of arrangements within Member Councils, including formal and informal coalitions and partnerships, and would wish to allow each Council to reach its own view on what is a balanced delegation.
- 4.2 The Leader of the Council will be a Member of the COSLA Leaders' Group.
- 4.3 The Council is not being asked, at this stage, to make any further appointments to COSLA pending clarification of COSLA's future political management structure.
- 4.4 The first COSLA Leaders' meeting after the elections will take

place on 26th May 2017 and the Convention meeting will take place on 30th June 2017. This meeting will include the election of COSLA's President and Vice President, along with the appointment of Spokespersons. Nominations for the President and Vice President must be sent to COSLA no later than Friday 9th June. The Council is therefore invited to consider its position with regards to nominations to these appointments as set out in the letter from the Chief Executive of COSLA at Appendix 1.

## **5. IMPLICATIONS**

<b>5.1</b>	Policy	None
<b>5.2</b>	Financial	The cost of COSLA Membership is budgeted for in the current year's budget. The costs of travel and subsistence incurred by Members who are appointed to the Convention in respect of their attendance at COSLA meetings and at other meetings of bodies they are appointed to by the Convention are met by the Council.
<b>5.3</b>	Legal	None
<b>5.4</b>	HR	None
<b>5.5</b>	Equalities	None
<b>5.6</b>	Risk	None
<b>5.7</b>	Customer Service	None

**Douglas Hendry**  
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**10<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

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**Appendix 1 - Letter from Chief Executive COSLA**