

**POLITICAL MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

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**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Council notes the sad passing of Councillor Ellen Morton which gives rise to a number of vacancies in its political management arrangements. The Council is therefore invited to consider appointments to these vacancies to ensure continued strategic oversight and direction and appropriate elected member representation on external bodies and organisations to facilitate ongoing partnership and joint working.
- 1.2 Additionally the Council is invited to make an appointment to the board of the Nadair Trust.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 The Council is invited to note any changes to political management arrangements as notified by the Leader of the Council.
- 2.2 The Council is invited to make the following appointments:
- a) Committee membership:
    - Policy and Resources Committee
    - Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee
    - Argyll Harbour Board
  - b) Executive and leadership positions:
    - Helensburgh & Lomond Area Committee – Chair
    - Harbour Board – Vice Chair
  - c) Appointments/nominations to outside bodies:
    - Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Authority – local member nomination
    - A83 Taskforce - member

- Local Plan Flood District Clyde and Loch Lomond – member
- Northern Roads Collaboration - member
- Nadair Trust – Board Director

d) Appointments to statutory bodies:

- Scotland Excel – substitute representative

### 3. DETAIL

3.1 Following the sad death of Councillor Ellen Morton a number of vacancies have arisen for the following positions.

#### 3.2 Policy Lead

A vacancy now exist for the role of Depute Policy Lead – Housing, Roads and Infrastructure. In accordance with the Council constitution Policy Leads and Deputies are appointed to such positions on the nomination of the Leader.

#### 3.3 Committee membership

- **Policy & Resources Committee**

The committee is comprised of 16 members and the composition will have regard to geographic and political balance in so far as practicable

- **Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee**

The committee is comprised of 16 members

- **Harbour Board**

The Harbour Board has 8 members and will have regard to relevant Area representation

In addition to vacancies in membership of these Committees there also arise vacancies in the following leadership roles:

Helensburgh & Lomond Area Committee – Chair

Harbour Board – Vice Chair

#### 3.4 Vacancies on Outside Bodies

- **Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Authority Board**

Membership of Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Authority Board is a Scottish Executive Appointment and any new appointments are subject to ministerial approval hence the Council is being asked to make a nomination in this regard.

With regards to the member to be nominated by the council this must be a local member – that person’s sole or main residence is within the National Park, or the person is a Councillor for an electoral ward, or is a member of a community council, any part of whose area is within the National Park. The skills and attributes that the Authority has identified as being most beneficial in a Board Member are as follows:

Members who can contribute to the development of strategy and overall direction for the Park Authority; be fully involved in Board and Board subcommittee discussions and votes; bring a local authority perspective to the Board and raise awareness of the National Park’s aims within our partner local authorities.

The core skills, as listed below, form part of the Scottish Government’s Board Member Core Skills Framework

- Longer term planning / seeing the bigger picture
- Managing performance
- Change Management
- Analysis & decision making
- Constructive & supportive challenge
- Communication & influencing
- Working co-operatively & collaboratively
- Governance
- Personal commitment

As a Non Departmental Public Body of the Scottish Government the Park Authority is keen to support the increased representation of females on the Board in line with the 50/50 by 2020 agenda.

Knowledge of the National Park and its aims is desirable, but a willingness to spend time engaging with and learning about the National Park and its communities is more important.

- **A83 Taskforce**

This group was set up in August 2012 to provide leadership and direction, and ensure the delivery of an emergency diversion route and the wider study into the permanent solution to landslides at the Rest and be Thankful. It has 4 Council nominated members.

- **Local Plan Flood District - Clyde and Loch Lomond**

Argyll and Bute Council area is covered by two Local Plan Districts. These are Highland and Argyll, and Clyde and Loch Lomond (CaLL). Highland and Argyll covers Highland Council area plus West Cowal and all land within Argyll and Bute Council area to the west of Loch Fyne. The CaLL

area is the East Cowal, Bute and Helensburgh and Lomond area. Both members can substitute for each other when necessary.

- **Northern Roads Collaboration**

A vacancy exists on the Northern Roads Collaboration. The Council has two seats on the collaboration and the Council has previously agreed that these will be held by the Policy Lead and Depute for Roads and Infrastructure.

- **Nadair Trust**

The Nadair Trust is a new appointment, it was formed in 2000 with the support of a number of partners including Argyll and Bute Council, Historic Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage and others. Working in partnership with community groups and other agencies, it was established to deliver heritage projects across the Argyll Islands. It was the vehicle for delivery of the two phases of the National Heritage Memorial Fund (NHMF) projects. These projects were completed in 2008. The trust has not been active for some time and does not currently have a quorate Board. It is seeking to work with former partners to put appropriate governance arrangements in place, to confirm legacy commitments and to make decisions about use of remaining funds. This activity requires a quorate Board. Partner members who have nominated Directors in the past are being asked to nominate Directors now to enable a quorate Board to be established.

3.5 Vacancies on statutory bodies:

- **Scotland Excel – substitute representative vacancy**

Scotland Excel is the centre of procurement enterprise for the local government sector. It is a leading non-profit shared service funded by local authorities.

## 4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The Council is invited to note any changes to its political management arrangements on notification from the Leader of the Council. It is further invited to consider appointments to vacancies on Committees, Outside Bodies and Statutory Organisations to ensure continued strategic oversight and direction and appropriate elected member representation on external bodies and organisations to facilitate ongoing partnership and joint working.

## 5. IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 **Policy:** This is in keeping with the Council's commitment to ensuring strategic oversight and direction and working in partnership with other agencies for the benefit of the people and communities of Argyll and Bute.
- 5.2 **Financial:** Travel and subsistence costs for attending meetings if required.
- 5.3 **Legal:** None
- 5.4 **HR:** None
- 5.5 **Fairer Scotland Duty:** None
- 5.5.1 **Equalities – protected characteristics:** None
- 5.5.2 **Socio-economic Duty:** None
- 5.5.3 **Islands:** None
- 5.6 **Risk:** Addresses risk of under-representation on committees and outside bodies.
- 5.7 **Customer Service:** None

**Douglas Hendry**  
**Executive Director with Responsibility for Legal and Regulatory Support**

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