

POLITICAL MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Council notes the sad passing of Provost Len Scoullar which gives rise to a vacancy in the key role of civic leader of the council and chair of council meetings. The Council is therefore invited to consider appointment to the role of Provost to ensure continuity in this key leadership role.
- 1.2 Additionally the Council is invited to approve a number of revisions to committee membership and to appoint a Vice Chair of the Harbour Board in response to changes in responsibilities and remits of Elected Members.
- 1.2 Additionally the Council is invited to note the changes in Shadow Policy Lead and Spokesperson appointments as notified by the Leader of the Opposition.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Council is invited to:
- a) Elect to the position of Provost of Argyll and Bute Council
 - b) Appoint a Vice Chair to the Harbour Board from within the existing membership as set out at paragraph 3.2.
 - c) Approve revisions to committee membership as set out at Paragraph 3.3.
 - d) Note the Shadow Policy lead roles and to recognise Spokesperson appointments as notified by the Leader of the Opposition.

3. DETAIL

- 3.1 Following the sad death of Provost Len Scoullar the Council is invited to make an appointment to this key leadership position. The Provost is

elected by the Council and normally holds office for the life of the Council in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1994. The Provost is the Councillor who chairs Council meetings and in that regard possesses the powers and duties given to him/her by statute, this Constitution and the common law. The Provost has precedence, that is to say s/he is the first citizen of the Council area and key functions are

- to promote involvement in the Council’s activities;
- to act as the conscience of the Council;
- to secure the rights of all Members to participate in the Council’s decision taking;
- to act as a focal point for the whole Argyll and Bute community;
- to carry out civic and ceremonial activities and act as an ambassador for the Council and Argyll and Bute.

3.2 Vice Chair – Argyll & Bute Harbour Board

A vacancy exists for the role of Vice Chair and an appointment requires to be made from within the existing Harbour Board Membership as follows, with the exception of Councillor Rory Colville as the Chair:

- Councillor John Armour
- Councillor Robin Currie
- Councillor Jim Lynch
- Councillor Alistair Redman
- Councillor Alan Reid
- Councillor Richard Trail
- Councillor Andrew Vennard

3.3 Committee membership

The Council is invited to approve a number of revisions to committee membership arising from changes in the responsibilities and remits of Elected Members as follows:

| Committee | New Appointment | Previous Appointment |
|---|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Environment, Development and Infrastructure | Cllr Bobby Good | Cllr Donald MacMillan BEM |
| Environment, Development and Infrastructure | Cllr Jim Lynch | Cllr Jim Findlay |

| | | |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Environment, Development and Infrastructure | Cllr Anne Horn | Cllr Gordon Blair |
| Policy and Resources | Cllr Jim Findlay | Cllr Audrey Forrest |
| Community Services | Cllr Gordon Blair | Cllr Anne Horn |
| Community Services | Cllr Audrey Forrest | Cllr Jim Lynch |

3.4 Shadow Roles

The Council is invited to note the following Shadow Policy Lead appointments and also to recognise the Spokesperson roles as notified by the Leader of the Opposition.

| Portfolio | Policy Lead |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| The Economy and Rural Growth | Cllr Jim Lynch |
| Financial Services and Major Projects | Cllr Jim Findlay |
| Education | Cllr Lorna Douglas |
| Health and Social Care | Cllr Sandy Taylor |
| Roads and Infrastructure Services | Cllr John Armour |
| Support Services | Cllr Richard Trail |
| Planning and Regulatory Services | Cllr Gordon Blair |

| Spokespersons roles | Spokesperson |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Culture & Sport | Cllr Audrey Forrest |
| Communities | Cllr Shonny Paterson |

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 Following the sad passing of Provost Len Scoullar the Council is invited to consider appointment to the role of Provost to ensure continuity in this key leadership role and the fulfilment of statutory functions.

Additionally the Council is invited to approve a number of revisions to committee membership, to appoint a Vice Chair of the Harbour Board and to note Shadow Policy Lead roles and Spokespersons.

These changes to the Council's political management arrangements facilitate good governance and ensure continued strategic oversight and direction.

5. IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 **Policy:** This is in keeping with the Council's commitment to ensuring effective governance, strategic oversight and direction.
- 5.2 **Financial:** Travel and subsistence costs for attending meetings if required.
- 5.3 **Legal:** Appointment of Provost underpins statutory requirements.
- 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 provides clarity in governance of Council meetings.
- 5.7 **Customer Service:** None

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