

POLITICAL MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Council of a change to the political composition of Argyll and Bute Council, following written notification that Councillor Roderick McCuish is now a member of the Independence for Scotland political party, and confirmation of Councillor Robin Currie as Leader of the Argyll, Lomond and the Islands Group.
- 1.2 The Council is further invited to approve a change to the members nominated by the Council to serve on the board of Live Argyll, following the recent change in Shadow Policy Lead roles.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Council is invited to note the updated Political Composition of Argyll and Bute Council which is attached at Appendix 1.
- 2.2 The Council is invited to appoint Councillor Audrey Forrest to replace Councillor Jim Lynch on the Live Argyll Board.

3. DETAIL

- 3.1 On 8th January 2021, Councillor Roderick McCuish wrote to the Council's Monitoring Officer to advise that he had joined the Independence for Scotland political party. Councillor McCuish remains a member of The Argyll, Lomond and the Islands Group within the Council.
- 3.2 The Monitoring Officer made arrangements for the Council's website to be updated accordingly and also put in place arrangements to notify Council at the earliest opportunity, this being the meeting scheduled for 25th February 2021.

- 3.3 The Council is advised of Councillor Robin Currie's appointment as Leader of the Argyll, Lomond and the Islands Group.
- 3.4 As a consequence of recent changes within the Shadow Policy Lead roles and specifically Councillor Audrey Forrest's new duties and portfolio responsibilities in Culture and Sport, the Leader of the largest opposition group has proposed changes to the membership of an outside body. Consequently the Council is invited to appoint Councillor Forrest as a Council representative on the Board of Live Argyll in place of Councillor Jim Lynch.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 This report notifies the Council of updates to the political composition of the Council. It further invites Council to appoint Councillor Forrest as a Council representative on the Board of Live Argyll in place of Councillor Jim Lynch.

5. IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 **Policy:** None
- 5.2 **Financial:** None
- 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:** None
- 5.7 **Customer Service:** None

Douglas Hendry
Executive Director with Responsibility for Legal and Regulatory Support

11th January 2021

Policy Lead: Councillor Mary Jean Devon

For further information please contact Patricia O'Neill, Governance Manager, telephone 01546 604384 or email patricia.oneill@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Appendix 1 – Updated Political Composition of Argyll and Bute Council

| ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL |
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| POLITICAL COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL |
| JANUARY 2021 |
| ARGYLL AND BUTE FIRST GROUP(3) |
| Cllr George Freeman (Ind) Cllr Donald Kelly (Con) Cllr Douglas Philand (Ind) – Leader, Argyll and Bute First Group |
| ARGYLL AND BUTE SCOTTISH NATIONAL PARTY GROUP (11) |
| Cllr John Armour Cllr Gordon Blair Cllr Lorna Douglas - Depute Leader, SNP Group Cllr Jim Findlay Cllr Audrey E Forrest Cllr Anne Horn Cllr Jim Lynch Cllr Julie McKenzie Cllr Iain Shonny Paterson Cllr Sandy Taylor - Leader, SNP Group Cllr Richard Trail |
| THE ARGYLL, LOMOND AND THE ISLANDS GROUP (18) |
| Cllr Rory Colville (LD) Cllr Robin Currie (LD) – Leader, The Argyll, Lomond and the Islands Group Cllr Mary Jean Devon (Ind) Cllr Bobby Good (Con) Cllr Kieron Green (Ind) Cllr Graham Hardie (LD) Cllr David Kinniburgh (Con) Cllr Roderick McCuish (IFS) Cllr Sir Jamie McGrigor (Con) Cllr Donald MacMillan BEM (Ind) Cllr Yvonne McNeilly (Con) Cllr Aileen Morton (LD) Cllr Barbara Morgan (Con) Cllr Gary Mulvaney (Con) Cllr Alan Reid (LD) Cllr Alastair Redman (Con) Cllr Elaine Robertson (Ind) Cllr Andrew Vennard (Con) |

COUNCILLORS NOT POLITICALLY ALIGNED (2)

Cllr Jim Anderson (Ind)
Cllr Jean Murray Moffat (Ind)

NOTE

Con – Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party
IfS – Independence for Scotland Party
Ind – Independent
LD – Scottish Liberal Democrat
SNP – Scottish National Party

There are 36 seats on Argyll and Bute Council with two current vacancies in the Helensburgh and Lomond South and Isle of Bute wards.