

Item -8 Fife Council 19 May 2022

Motion on Governance Arrangements and Appointment of Leader of the Council and Positions of Responsibility

Part A

To ensure that the Council can conduct its business and also to further develop the framework for its governance, Council resolves to establish the following decision making structure:

1. A Cabinet Committee responsible for strategic policy decisions.

Membership of the Cabinet will be the Leader of the Council (Chair), six strategic spokespersons (appointed in accordance with Part C paragraph 1 of this motion) and ordinary members up to a total of 21 members (including the spokespeople but excluding the Chair). The ordinary members will be appointed on the basis of political balance. Should the number of strategic spokespeople from one party exceed that party's politically balanced allocation on the Cabinet then those spokespeople will be additional members of the Cabinet (over and above the 21 noted above) and with full voting rights.

2. Four Scrutiny Committees, based on the following broad remits:

- Education
- People and Communities (including social care, children's services and housing)
- Finance, Economy and Corporate Services (including HR and Planning)
- Environment, Transportation and Climate Change

Each Scrutiny Committee will have the power to make recommendations to the Cabinet Committee for consideration and will be responsible for:

- considering call-ins from the Cabinet Committee
- in depth scrutiny of areas of policy and performance as determined by the Committee
- considering matters referred for scrutiny by the Cabinet Committee
- Service monitoring reports

Membership of the Committees will consist of 16 members appointed on the basis of political balance. The Chair will be appointed by the Committee at its first meeting.

3. Seven Area Committees, based on the previous structure for Area Committees. Council agrees to delegate the appointment of Chairs to Area

Committees but only where the Committee reaches a majority decision on the appointment. If a majority decision cannot be reached the Committees do not have delegated authority to make an appointment and the matter will be referred back to full Council for determination in accordance with the agreed procedures.

4. A Standards, Audit and Risk Committee with a membership of 10 and politically balanced.
5. A Regulation and Licensing Committee with a membership of 16 and politically balanced.
6. A West and Central Planning Committee, with a membership of 16 based on a politically balanced consideration of the constituent areas and chaired by one of the Conveners of the Area Committees.
7. A North East Fife Planning Committee which will be constituted in the same way as in the previous administration, and with the same Chair as the North East Fife Area Committee
8. Political groups are invited to submit nominations to the Proper Officer for membership of the Cabinet and Committees based on political balance

Part B

1. To allow the Council to continue to determine relevant matters in the interim, Council resolves that the Area Committees shall assume the same terms of reference as in the current Committee Powers.
2. Council further resolves to delegate authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the appropriate spokespersons, on all policy and other appropriate matters which require a decision before the next Council meeting.
3. Council agree that the next meeting of full Council will be on 9 June 2022. The Chief Executive will ensure that all seven Area Committees convene within two weeks of today's meeting, and that the four Scrutiny Committees will convene by the end of June 2022, to consider the appointment of Chairs only and
4. Council agrees to bring forward a revised Scheme of Administration based on this decision making structure and including any additional statutory, regulatory or other committees that are recommended, to the next Council meeting. The effectiveness of the revised Scheme of Administration will be reviewed no later than 1 year following adoption of the revised Scheme of Administration.

Part C Appointment of Leader of the Council and Positions of Responsibility

The Council resolves

- 1 To create the following positions of special responsibility.
 - a. Leader of the Council
 - b. Leader of the Opposition
 - c. Spokesperson for Education
 - d. Spokesperson for Housing and Building Services
 - e. Spokesperson for Finance, Economy and Strategic Planning
 - f. Spokesperson for Environment and Climate Change
 - g. Spokesperson for Communities and Leisure Services
 - h. Spokesperson for Health and Social Care (to be the Council's representative on the Board of NHS Fife and to act as Chair/Vice Chair of the Integrated Joint Board)
 - i. Chair of the Regulation and Licensing Committee and Licensing Board
 - j. Four chairs of Scrutiny committees and
 - k. Seven chairs of Area Committees
- 2 To invite nominations for the positions at (a) to (i) above
- 3 To agree that the above posts be assigned Special Responsibility Allowances as set out in the attached appendix.
- 4 That political groups are invited to submit nominations to the Proper Officer for membership of the Health and Social Care Integrated Joint Board sufficient to fill 8 places on the Board, to include the Strategic Spokesperson for Health and Social Care (and 8 reserves) on the basis of political balance.
- 5 That political groups are invited to submit nominations to the Proper Officer sufficient to fill 6 representatives for the COSLA Convention on the basis of political balance.
- 6 That Council will consider the appointment of any remaining positions of responsibility at its next meeting on 9th June 2022 including the Chair of the Standards, Audit and Risk Committee

Proposed by: Councillor David Ross

Seconded by: Councillor Linda Erskine

Appendix 1

<u>Position</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Remuneration</u> £	<u>Total Cost</u>
Provost of Fife	1	34,254	34,254
Leader of the Council	1	45,669	45,669
Strategic Spokespersons:			
Education	1	26,911	26,911
Housing and Building Services	1	26,911	26,911
Finance, Economy and Strategic Planning	1	26,911	26,911
Environment and Climate Change	1	26,911	26,911
Communities and Leisure	1	26,911	26,911
Chairs of: -			
Scrutiny Committees	4	26,911	107,644
Regulation and Licensing Committee/Licensing Board	1	26,911	26,911
Chairs of Area Committees	7	26,911	188,377
Leader of the Opposition	1	26,911	26,911
Extra SRA payment	1	26,911	26,911
Total	21		591,232

Notes:

- (1) SRAs are inclusive of councillors' basic level of remuneration;
- (2) The motion complies with the maximum number of SRAs and remuneration outlined in the Scheme of Councillors' Remuneration and Expenses Report (section 2.2);
- (3) If a member is appointed to more than one position, then only the highest SRA will be paid.