
Report To:	Inverclyde Council	Date:	24 September 2020
Report By:	Head of Legal & Property Services	Report No:	GM/LP/100/20
Contact Officer:	Gerard Malone	Contact No:	01475 712710
Subject:	SNP Group – Proposed Membership Changes		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to ask the Council: (a) to note the appointment of Councillor Robertson as SNP Group Leader from 5 August 2020; and (b) to consider a number of changes proposed by the SNP Group to membership of Committees, Outside Bodies, the Women's Forum and one of the Member Champions. These are as follows.

Committees

Policy & Resources Committee

Councillors C McEleny and MacLeod to be replaced by Councillors Curley and Crowther.

Policy & Resources Executive Sub-Committee

Councillor C McEleny to be replaced by Councillor Curley.

Licensing Board

Councillor Robertson to be replaced by Councillor Curley.

Outside Bodies

Inverclyde Alcohol and Drugs Partnership

Councillor Crowther to be replaced by Councillor MacLeod.

Renfrewshire Educational Trust – Trustees

Councillor Robertson to be replaced by Councillor Curley.

Fair Trade Steering Group

Councillor Nelson to stand down from this group (resultant vacancy).

Working Groups

Women's Forum

Councillor C McEleny to stand down from this forum (resultant vacancy).

Member Champions

Healthy Lifestyles Champion

Councillor Robertson to be replaced by Councillor Curley.

1.2 Leader of Minority Groups

Councillor Robertson was appointed SNP Group Leader as from 5 August 2020 and, as Leader of the largest non-Administration political party, is the Leader of the Minority Groups from that date.

1.3 CoSLA

It was agreed by Inverclyde Council at its meeting on 6 December 2007 that the Council's representation on the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities be the Council Leader, Council Depute Leader and Leader of the largest opposition group and CoSLA has been informed of the change in representation following Councillor Robertson's appointment as SNP Group Leader.

- 1.4 In relation to Committee and Outside Body appointments, the proposed changes outlined above are nominating party group replacements and fulfil the requirements in respect of political balance. The SNP Group has not nominated replacements for Councillor Nelson on the Fair Trade Steering Group or Councillor C McEleny on the Women's Forum and therefore vacancies exist on both these bodies.
- 1.5 In relation to the appointment of Member Champions, there is no political balance requirement and the Council can determine its appointment of the Healthy Lifestyles Champion.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 That the Council notes the appointment of Councillor Elizabeth Robertson as SNP Group Leader from 5 August 2020;
- 2.2 That the Council considers the proposed changes to SNP Group representation as set out above;
- 2.3 That the Council fills the vacancy on the Fair Trade Steering Group following the resignation of Councillors Nelson, having regard to the political balance of the Council;
- 2.4 That the Council fills the vacancy on the Women's Forum following the resignation of Councillor C McEleny: and
- 2.5 That the Council decides on the appointment of the Healthy Lifestyles Champion.

Gerard Malone
Head of Legal & Property Services