

AGENDA ITEM NO: 6

Report To: Inverclyde Council Date: 17 February 2022

Report By: Head of Legal & Democratic Report No: LS/019/22

Services

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Subject: Appointment of Elected Members to Inchgreen Joint Venture

Company

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to request the Council to consider appointing two representatives to the Board of the Joint Venture Company to be established to deliver the Inchgreen City Deal Project ("the Project").

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Environment & Regeneration Committee at its meeting on 13 January 2022 considered a report by the Interim Director, Environment & Regeneration advising of progress in respect of the Project, confirming approval to enter into a Joint Venture Agreement with Clydeport Operations Limited ("COL") to deliver the Project and approving other actions in respect of the Project. In particular, the Committee noted that two Elected Member Directors of the Joint Venture would be considered by the Council on 17 February 2022.
- 2.2 As part of the Joint Venture arrangements, the Joint Venture Company will be established, named and incorporated once Final Business Case approval from the City Deal Cabinet Project Management Office is granted.
- 2.3 The Joint Venture Agreement between the Council and COL states that the initial Directors of the Company shall be:
 - (a) Two individuals to be nominated by the Council prior to incorporation; and
 - (b) Two individuals to be nominated by COL prior to incorporation.
- 2.4 The Council, therefore, requires to determine two nominees to the Board of the Inchgreen Joint Venture Company. In addition, the Council is to nominate the Chair of the Board for the first two years of the Company's existence, meaning the Council should also consider which nominee should be its Chair.
- 2.5 Elected Members are reminded that accepting such a Director appointment brings additional legal and other duties, in particular to act in the best interests of the Inchgreen Joint Venture Company. There is the potential that in the future such an appointment could result in a conflict of interest with the individual's role as an Elected Member. The attention of Elected Members is also drawn to the <u>advice note prepared by the Standards Commission</u> on considerations related to an external organisation such as this.
- 2.6 The provision of the Council's Standing Orders (Standing Order 54) which provide that appointments reflect, as far as practicable, the balance of the political representation of the Council only apply where more than two representatives are sought for outside bodies. As such, this provision does not apply in respect of these appointments.
- 2.7 In the usual way, these appointments will be re-considered at the Statutory Meeting of the Council following the May 2022 elections, together with all such external appointments.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that the Council appoints two Elected Members to serve on the Board of the Joint Venture Company established to deliver the Inchgreen City Deal Project, one of those appointments also being the initial Chair, said appointments to be re-considered at the Statutory Meeting of the Council following the May 2022 elections.

lain Strachan Head of Legal & Democratic Services