
Report To:	Inverclyde Council	Date:	25 April 2024
Report By:	Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services	Report No:	LS/030/24
Contact Officer:	Vicky Pollock	Contact No:	01475 712180
Subject:	SNP Group Representation on the Audit Committee		

1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

1.1 For Decision For Information/Noting

1.2 The purpose of this report is to ask the Council to consider a change proposed by the SNP Group to its membership of the Audit Committee. This change is as follows:

Councillor Nelson to be replaced by Councillor Curley

1.3 Thereafter the Council is asked to appoint a Convenor for the Audit Committee and confirm the Special Responsibility Allowance currently allocated to that position.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Council:

- (1) considers the proposed changes to SNP Group representation on the Audit Committee; and
- (2) appoints a Convenor for the Audit Committee and confirms the Special Responsibility Allowance currently allocated to that position.

Vicky Pollock
Interim Head of Legal & Democratic Services

3.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

- 3.1 The Council's Audit Committee comprises 11 Elected Members, its terms of reference being as set out in the Council's Standing Orders and Scheme of Administration.
- 3.2 Committee membership was agreed at the Statutory Meeting of the Council on 19 May 2022. Membership of the Committee comprises Cllrs Crowther, McCabe, McCluskey, McCormick, McGuire, McKenzie, McVey, Nelson, Reynolds, Robertson and Wilson. Cllr Nelson was appointed Convenor of the Committee at the Council's Statutory Meeting on 19 May 2022. The Council is able to reconsider membership to its Committees, Boards and Scrutiny Panels at any time, subject to the terms of its Standing Orders.
- 3.3 Under Standing Order 59, the Council shall ensure that appointments to its Committees reflect, as far as practicable, the balance of political representation on the Council. In terms of paragraph 5.6 of the Council's Scheme of Administration the Convenor of the Audit Committee shall be a Member who does not form part of the Administration Group.

- 3.4 The SNP Group has proposed a change to its membership of the Council's Audit Committee, as follows:

Councillor Nelson to be replaced by Councillor Curley

- 3.5 Councillor Nelson's proposed replacement will create a vacancy for the role of Convenor of the Audit Committee. It is therefore appropriate that the Council appoint a Convenor for the Audit Committee.
- 3.6 At its Statutory Meeting the Council also approved the remuneration payable to certain Elected Members, in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration) Amendment Regulations 2022 and the Local Government (Allowances and Expense) (Scotland) Regulations 2007 as amended. As part of this, it was agreed that the Convenor of the Audit Committee would be designated as a Senior Councillor and entitled to the associated special responsibility allowance.

It is therefore appropriate that the Council confirms the Special Responsibility Allowance currently allocated to that position.

- 3.7 A link to 19 May 2022 report is provided here:
<https://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/2450>

4.0 PROPOSAL

- 4.1 It is proposed that the Council considers the proposed change to the SNP Group representation on the Audit Committee. It is also proposed that the Council thereafter appoints a Convenor for the Audit Committee and confirms the Special Responsibility Allowance currently allocated to that position.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO
Financial		X
Legal/Risk	X	
Human Resources		X
Strategic (Partnership Plan/Council Plan)		X
Equalities, Fairer Scotland Duty & Children/Young People's Rights & Wellbeing		X
Environmental & Sustainability		X
Data Protection		X

5.2 Finance

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

5.3 Legal/Risk

The legal implications are considered in this report.

5.4 Human Resources

N/A

5.5 Strategic

N/A

6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 N/A

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None.