REPORT TO ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL – 27 JUNE 2013

NOMINATIONS TO OUTSIDE BODIES - UPDATE

1 Recommendations

It is recommended that Council:

(a) Approves the recommendation from Education, Learning and Leisure Committee to nominate Councillor Charles Buchan and Councillor Roy to Scottish Lighthouse Museum in a decision making capacity, thereby superseding any existing or prior nominations;

(b) Approves the recommendation from Formartine Area Committee to nominate Councillor Owen to Ellon Sport Development Trust in an advisory capacity, thereby superseding any existing or prior nominations.

2 Background / Discussion

2.1 The list of Outside Bodies under the Confident Governance project to which councillor nominations were recommended to be made was determined at the meeting of Full Council on 17 January 2013 (Report on Nominations to Outside Bodies) with authority delegated to each Area Committee and Policy Committee to make the actual nominations as relevant in each case.

Scottish Lighthouse Museum

2.2 At the meeting of Full Council on 17 January 2013, a recommendation was made to nominate councillors to the Scottish Lighthouse Museum in an advisory capacity. At that time, no criteria form had been received from this organisation.

2.3 A criteria form for the Scottish Lighthouse Museum was subsequently received and scored which disclosed that the organisation was requesting nominations be made in a decision-making capacity. Due to this change in circumstances, a report was provided to Education, Learning and Leisure Committee on 23 May 2013 seeking its recommendation to Full Council as to whether Elected Members should be nominated to the Scottish Lighthouse Museum and, if so, to further recommend the number of nominations to be made; the capacity in which nominations should be made; and which Elected Members should be nominated.

2.4 At its meeting on 23 May 2013, Education, Learning and Leisure Committee agreed to recommend Councillor Charles Buchan and Councillor Roy in a decision making capacity. Full Council is now asked to approve the recommendation of Education, Learning and Leisure Committee.
2.5 At the meeting on 17 January 2013, Full Council agreed that outside bodies which had not yet provided all the necessary information be given one final chance to respond by the end of the year before being removed from the list. A Criteria Form was subsequently completed by Ellon Sport Development Trust, and information taken from the Criteria Form was provided to Formartine Area Committee.

2.6 At its meeting of 21 May 2013, Formartine Area Committee resolved to request that Full Council agree to the nomination of Councillor Owen to Ellon Sport Development Trust in an advisory capacity. Full Council is now asked to approve the recommendation of Formartine Area Committee.

2.7 The Head of Legal and Governance will ensure that as far as possible preliminary checks are carried out to ensure the governance and insurance details provided in the criteria form from each Outside Body are correct. Understandably there are limitations on the extent to which this can be done, particularly where insufficient or no information is being provided by the Outside Body and also generally speaking on any on-going basis. Going ahead, it will be for each councillor to check compliance throughout their term of involvement with the body.

2.8 The Head of Finance and the Monitoring Officer within Corporate Services have been consulted on the terms of this report.

3 Equalities, Staffing and Financial Implications

3.1 An equality impact assessment is not required because the recommendations contained within this report will not have a detrimental impact on the protected characteristics of any particular individuals.

3.2 There are no staffing or financial implications arising directly as a result of this report. There are significant staffing resources being applied to the Confident Governance Project from across the Council in particular from within Legal and Governance.

Christine Gore
Director of Corporate Services
Report prepared by Martin Ingram, Principal Solicitor (Governance)
Date 7 June 2013
References Karen Wiles /Confident Governance.doc