

REPORT TO SOCIAL WORK AND HOUSING COMMITTEE – 6 JUNE, 2013

NOMINATIONS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

1 Recommendations

1.1 To nominate Elected Member(s) to Volunteer Centre Aberdeenshire, thereby superseding any existing or prior nominations.

2 Background / Discussion

- 2.1 At its meeting on 17 January 2013, Full Council decided to approve the recommendation that future nominations be made to Volunteer Centre Aberdeenshire, with a view to delegating to Social Work and Housing Committee any future nominations to be made. It was still to be confirmed, however, whether this would be required in a decision making or advisory capacity. Following that meeting, a Criteria Form for Volunteer Centre Aberdeenshire was received and scored. One representative in an advisory/observer capacity has been requested.
- 2.2 At its meeting on 28 March 2013, Social Work and Housing Committee agreed to recommend to Full Council the appointment of one Elected Member (and one substitute) in an advisory role to Volunteer Centre Aberdeenshire.
- 2.3 At its meeting on 25 April 2013, Full Council approved the recommendation from Social Work and Housing Committee to nominate elected Members to Volunteer Centre Aberdeenshire in an advisory capacity, with a view to delegating to Social Work and Housing Committee any future nominations to be made.
- 2.4 Social Work and Housing Committee is now asked to nominate Elected Member(s) to Volunteer Centre Aberdeenshire, thereby superseding any existing or prior nominations.
- 2.5 Where the role taken on is one of **advisor/observer**, the councillor does not become a member of the outside body and simply observes proceedings or provides advice on what the Council's position is on a particular issue. Members should be aware that when they take on an advisory/observational role, they must be careful to limit their remit accordingly and not inadvertently influence policy or management decisions of the Outside Body, otherwise they may be treated as decision-makers for the organisation and thereby take on liability for the decisions made.
- 2.6 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 is correct. Understandably there are limitations on the extent to which this can be done, particularly where insufficient or no information is being provided 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.

2.7 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 15 May 2013

References Karen Wiles/Confident Governance.doc