

ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL – 25 APRIL 2013

NOMINATIONS TO OUTSIDE BODIES - UPDATE

1 Recommendations

It is recommended that Council:

- (a) Approves the recommendation from Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee to nominate Councillor Dick to the Aberdeenshire South Access Panel in an advisory capacity, thereby superseding any existing or prior nominations;**
- (b) Approves 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 that Policy Committee any future nominations to be made, thereby superseding any existing or prior nominations; and**
- (c) Notes the current position regarding Elected Member nomination to Aberdeen Renewable Energy Group (AREG) and defers a decision on any future such nominations until the conclusion of the proposed review (Confident Governance 2), all as detailed in section 2.8 of this report.**

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.

2.2 Full Council also agreed at this meeting that Outside Bodies which had not yet provided all the necessary information be given one final chance to respond by the end of the financial year before being removed from the list. Outside Bodies to which nominations were recommended by Full Council include the undernoted four bodies which have not yet provided all the necessary information:-

- Daviot Community Trust
- Ellon Sports Development Trust
- Foveran Partnership
- Turriff & District Limited

As the end of the financial year has now passed, these Outside Bodies shall now be removed from the list.

Aberdeenshire South Access Panel

- 2.3 Due to delays in processing the Criteria Form for Aberdeenshire South Access Panel, the details were not placed before Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee on 11 December 2012 when this matter was considered. It became apparent prior to the meeting of Full Council on 17 January 2013 that a Criteria Form had in fact been completed by Aberdeenshire South Access Panel and consequently Full Council delegated authority to Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee to consider anew the application for nomination by this organisation with a view to making an appropriate recommendation to Full Council and for the current nominee to remain in situ meantime.
- 2.4 At its meeting on 26 March 2013, Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee determined to provide a recommendation to Full Council that Elected Member nomination should continue to Aberdeenshire South Access Panel and that the nomination should be in an advisory role.

Volunteer Centre Aberdeenshire

- 2.5 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. Since that meeting, a Criteria Form for Volunteer Centre Aberdeenshire was received and scored.
- 2.6 At its meeting on 28 March 2013, Social Work and Housing Committee agreed to recommend to Full Council the appointment of 1 member (and 1 substitute) in an advisory role to Volunteer Centre Aberdeenshire.

Aberdeen Renewable Energy Group (AREG)

- 2.7 Full Council on 17 May 2012 delegated authority to Infrastructure Services Committee to nominate Elected Members to AREG. At its meeting on 31 May 2012, Infrastructure Services Committee agreed to make nominations to AREG, comprising one member and one named substitute.
- 2.8 In light of issues highlighted under the Confident Governance project, the Elected Members nominated to AREG decided not to take up the Council's nominations. The Legal & Governance Service will be carrying out a review of the Council's position on appointments to partnerships and other external bodies (Confident Governance 2) which did not fall within the original Confident Governance project and in light of this it is recommended that the Council agrees to determine the position on any future nominations to AREG once this review is undertaken.
- 2.9 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 5 April 2013

References Karen Wiles/Confident Governance.doc