

SNP Motion Fife Council 19 May 2022

Part 1 Decision Making Arrangements

1. It is clear that SNP Group in the recent Local Government election 2022 was given a mandate by the people of Fife to help create the next Administration of Fife Council. With that in mind we are proposing a committee based system that will involve all elected members, will put the interests of Fife and its people first, will promote equality, recognise and respect the rich diversity of Fife and its communities and citizens, and will have clear lines of responsibility regarding political decision making, and scrutiny.
2. To ensure that the Council can conduct its business and also further develop the framework for its governance, Council agrees to receive a report at the full Council meeting on 16th June 2022 as follows:-
 - (a) Establishing the following Committees as the basis for the governance framework and applying the principle of political balance
 - i. Policy and Resources Committee (17 members)
 - ii. Education Committee (12 members)
 - iii. Environment and Protective Services Committee (12 members)
 - iv. Housing, Leisure and Community Services Committee (12 members)
 - v. Strategic Planning, Economic Development, Transportation, Technical and Engineering Services Committee (12 members)
 - vi. Social Work, Children and Adult Services Committee (12 members)
 - vii. Area Committees (7 Committees based on the previous structure of these Committees)
 - viii. 2 planning committees (11) (NEF and C&WF - chaired by an area chair)
 - ix. Standards, Audit and Scrutiny Committee (11 members)
 - x. Regulation and Licencing Committee (15)
 - (b) setting out remits for each of the Committees established in accordance with the above, together with recommendations for any other statutory or regulatory committees that may be required.

3. To delegate authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Administration and the Group Leaders on all policy and other appropriate matters which require a decision before the next Council meeting on 16th June 2022.
4. To invite the political groups to discuss and make their views known about the proposals prior, if possible, to the Council meeting of 16th June; and
5. To review the effectiveness of the revised governance framework no later than one year following adoption of the revised framework.

Part 2 Appointment of Committee Conveners/Positions of Responsibility

The Council resolves

1. that the position of Leader and Depute Leader of the Administration and Leader of the Opposition are agreed and appointed today.
2. that the appointment to all other positions of Special Responsibility be deferred to the next meeting of the Council on 16th June and that Special Responsibility Allowances be assigned at that meeting.
3. to invite nominations for the positions of Leader and Depute Leader of the Administration and Leader of the Opposition.

Part 3 Appointment of the Conveners of Committees

That Council

1. Agree that the Chief Executive calls meetings of the seven Area Committees within the next four weeks to invite Area Committees to agree their Area Convenors; and
2. Resolve to request nominations from each political party for membership of:
 - (a) the Health and Social Care Integrated Joint Board - sufficient to fill 8 places on the Board (and 8 reserves) on the basis of political balance, i.e. 4 SNP, 2 Labour, 1 Liberal Democrats and 1 Conservatives; and
 - (b) COSLA Convention - sufficient to fill 6 places on the basis of political balance, i.e. 3 SNP, 2 Labour, and 1 Liberal Democrat.

Part 4 Emergency Working Groups

The Council resolves to form three short term working Groups (of not more than 12 members each) that will work with the Administration and Officers and focus on eliminating/reducing backlogs/pressures caused in part by the public health crisis. The working groups will work over the summer period and make recommendations to the appropriate committee.

- i. Temporary Accommodation/Homelessness - the working group to investigate all means possible to increase the council housing stock including and especially removing the limit on the purchase of ex-council houses.
- ii. Cost of Living Pressures - the working group to bring together all sections of the council involved in the elimination of poverty with a view to identifying people and families under pressure, optimise uptake of national and locally administered benefits, maximise Fife Council support budgets, and mobilise/organise local communities to work cohesively with the Council and other support networks
- iii. Covid backlogs - the working group to identify the backlogs in service delivery due to the pandemic (excluding roads and pavements) and the extent of the problem.

All 3 working groups should be given priority status and work across council services. All proposals to alleviate the identified issues should take into account current financial plans without creating future budget streams and concentrate on one-off funding models.

Moved by Cllr David Alexander

Seconded by Cllr Craig Walker