

ITEM 10 – APPOINTMENT OF CONVENER AND VICE CONVENER

Report by: Alice Miles, Acting SDP Manager

Purpose

This Report sets out a proposal for the appointment of the Convener and Vice Convener of the SESplan Joint Committee over the two year period from 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2019 for agreement.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the SESplan Joint Committee:

1. Agree the appointment of Councillor J Beare from Fife Council as Convener and Councillor R Imrie from Midlothian Council as Vice Convener of the SESplan Joint Committee for the period 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2019.

Resource Implications

As set out below.

Legal and Risk Implications

As set out below.

Policy and Impact Assessment

No separate impact assessment is required.

1. The SESplan Joint Committee

- 1.1 Circular 2/2008 sets out the Scottish Government's statutory guidance for Strategic Development Planning Authorities (SDPA).

- 1.2 The Circular identifies the need to establish a joint committee of members and a dedicated team of officers. The SESplan Joint Committee was formally established in November 2008 following the agreement of the SESplan Constitution, Scheme of Delegation and Financial Rules.
- 1.3 At its meeting on the 18 November 2013, the SESplan Joint Committee agreed that the post of Convener and Vice Convener would be rotated every two years (1 January to 31 December).
- 1.4 Paragraph 5.4 of the SESplan Constitution sets out that the rotation of Convenership and Vice Convenership shall be alphabetical by Council, unless otherwise determined by Joint Committee. It was agreed at the inception of SESplan that rotation would be alphabetical excepting Scottish Borders and East Lothian Councils, where Scottish Borders, not East Lothian, would follow the City of Edinburgh and East Lothian, not Scottish Borders, would follow Midlothian. This decision reflected particular resource constraints at that time. The rotation of the Joint Committee Convenership and Vice Convenership has been on this basis since 2008.
- 1.5 On the 1 January 2016, Scottish Borders Council took office as Joint Committee Convener with Fife taking office as Vice Convener for a two year period (to 31 December 2017).
- 1.6 On this basis Fife Council will assume the role of Convener from the 1 January 2018 with Midlothian Council to assume the office of Vice Convener. Councillor J Beare of Fife Council has been nominated for the role of Convener, with Councillor R Imrie of Midlothian Council nominated for the role of Vice Convener.
- 1.7 The rotation of Joint Committee Convener and Vice Convener is set out in Table 1 below.

Period	Convener	Vice Convener
1 January 2018 – 31 December 2019	Fife Council	Midlothian Council
1 January 2020 – 31 December 2021	Midlothian Council	East Lothian Council
1 January 2022 – 31 December 2023	East Lothian Council	West Lothian Council

2. Conclusion

- 2.1 The operation of the SDPA and the Joint Committee will be kept under review following the Planning Review and the repurposing of SDPAs and the creation of regional working partnerships.

Report Contact

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