

TAYSIDE AND CENTRAL SCOTLAND TRANSPORT PARTNERSHIP**12 DECEMBER 2017****APPOINTMENT OF COUNCILLOR AND NON-COUNCILLOR MEMBERS****REPORT BY SECRETARY**

This report updates the Partnership on the appointment of Councillor and non-Councillor members and asks the Partnership to consider appointment to the position of Deputy Chairperson.

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 That the Partnership:-

- (i) notes the appointment of Councillor Jim Thomson as a Stirling Council member of the Partnership;
- (ii) considers whether it wishes to appoint a Deputy Chairperson following the resignation of Councillor Evelyn Tweed;
- (iii) approves the appointment of Councillor Thomson as Stirling Council representative on the Executive Committee; and
- (iv) notes the appointment of Mr Bob Benson as a non-Councillor member of the Partnership.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At its meeting on 13 June 2017 the Partnership noted the appointment of Councillor members of Tactran by the four constituent Councils (Minute of meeting of 13 June 2017, Branch 2 refers). At that time the Partnership also appointed Councillor Evelyn Tweed and Ms Trudi Craggs as Deputy Chairpersons of the Partnership and appointed members to the Executive Committee ((Minute of meeting of 13 June 2017, Branches 6 and 7 refer).
- 2.2 Subsequent to the Partnership's last meeting on 12 September 2017 Councillor Evelyn Tweed tendered her resignation as Stirling Council representative on the Partnership. Councillor Tweed's resignation has created vacancies for a Stirling Council member of the Partnership, Deputy Chairperson and Stirling Council representative on the Executive Committee.
- 2.3 On 13 June 2017 the Partnership noted Mr Doug Fleming's intention to stand down from the position of non-Councillor member of Tactran when his latest term of appointment expired on 30 September 2017 and agreed to enter into a recruitment process to fill the resultant vacancy, with authority delegated to the Executive Committee to carry out the recruitment and appointment process (Report RTP/17/11 refers).

3 DISCUSSION

Councillor Membership

- 3.1 At its meeting on 28 September 2017 Stirling Council agreed to appoint Councillor Jim Thomson to the vacancy arising from Councillor Evelyn Tweed's resignation from the Partnership. Councillor Thomson was previously a member of Tactran from 2007 until 2012. The Partnership is asked to note this change in Stirling Council member representation.

Appointment of Deputy Chairperson(s)

- 3.2 As noted in 2.1 above, Councillor Evelyn Tweed was one of two Deputy Chairpersons appointed by the Partnership at its meeting on 13 June 2017. As a consequence of Councillor Tweed's resignation the Partnership is asked to consider whether it would wish to appoint another Deputy Chairperson.
- 3.3 The Partnership's Standing Orders allow for the appointment of such number of Deputy Chairpersons as the Partnership considers appropriate, subject to the proviso that the Chairperson and Deputy Chairpersons shall not be members of the same Council (Standing Order No. 8 refers).

Appointment of Executive Committee

- 3.4 The Executive Committee comprises five members, being one member from each of the constituent Councils and one non-Councillor member. The Partnership's Standing Orders state that Executive Committee membership will normally include the Chairperson and Deputy Chairpersons (Standing Order 30 refers).
- 3.5 At its meeting on 13 June 2017 the Partnership approved the appointment of Councillor Evelyn Tweed to the Executive Committee as Deputy Chairperson and Stirling Council representative. Councillor Jim Thomson has been nominated as new Stirling Council representative and the Partnership is asked to approve Councillor Thomson's appointment to the Executive Committee.

Non-Councillor Membership

- 3.6 In accordance with the process approved by the Partnership on 13 June 2017, the vacancy arising from Mr Doug Fleming's resignation as non-Councillor member was advertised on the Partnership's website, by circulation to all of the Partnership's Wider Stakeholder Group and on the Public Appointments and Diversity Centre of Expertise (PACE) website.
- 3.7 Two applications were received from persons who met the criteria for membership as an RTP non-Councillor member, as set out in national guidance. Both candidates were interviewed by the Executive Committee on 16 November 2017. Following interview the Executive Committee unanimously agreed that the position should be offered to Mr Bob Benson.

- 3.8 Mr Benson has extensive public appointments experience as a previous member of the Mobility and Access Committee for Scotland (MACS), as a current non-Executive Board member of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, as previous national director of the Disability Rights Commission in Scotland and a public appointee on the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC). During his time with MACS and in other capacities he has advised on and contributed significantly to addressing the needs of disabled and other users within the transport and connectivity sectors.
- 3.9 An offer of appointment, subject to Ministerial endorsement, was made and has been accepted by Mr Benson. In accordance with the Partnership's normal practice, appointment is for an initial 2-year term until 31 December 2019, with extension beyond that subject to the normal review and appraisal process.
- 3.10 Notification of the proposed appointment was submitted to Transport Scotland on 21 November 2017 along with a request for the necessary endorsement of appointment by the Minister for Transport and the Islands. Confirmation that the Minister is content with the appointment was received on 27 November 2017. The Partnership is asked to note the appointment of Mr Bob Benson as non-Councillor member.

4 CONSULTATIONS

- 4.1 The report has been prepared in consultation with the Director.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Costs associated with advertisement and filling of the vacancy of non-Councillor member have been met from the approved 2017/18 Core Revenue Budget provision for Board Expenses.

6 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 This report has no direct equalities implications.

Gillian Taylor, Secretary

Report prepared by Gillian Taylor - For further information contact e-mail gataylor@pkc.gov.uk or telephone 01738 475135

NOTE

The following background papers as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than these containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on in preparing the above report :-

Report to Partnership RTP/17/11, Appointment of Non-Councillor Members, 13 June 2017