

17 MARCH 2020

**APPOINTMENT OF NON-COUNCILLOR MEMBER****REPORT BY DIRECTOR**

This report informs the Board of the resignation of two non-Councillor members and seeks approval from the Board to appoint to one of those vacancies on the recommendation of the Executive Committee following an interview held on Thursday, 20 February 2020.

**1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

## 1.1 That the Partnership :-

- (i) notes the resignation of Bob Benson as a non-Councillor member from the Board with effect from 31 December 2019;
- (ii) approves the appointment to the vacancy of Bryan Doyle on the recommendation of the Executive Committee following an interview held on Thursday, 20 February 2020 and the submission of the name of the successful applicant to the Scottish Government for endorsement;
- (iii) notes the further resignation of David Scotney as a non-Councillor member from the Board with effect from 10 March 2020 and authorises the Partnership Director to advertise the vacancy as widely as possible; and
- (iv) authorises the Chair to send a letter of thanks to Bob Benson and David Scotney thanking each of them for their service to the Partnership over their periods of tenure as non-Councillor Board members.

**2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The membership of the Partnership is prescribed within the Regional Transport Partnerships (Establishment, Constitution and Membership) (Scotland) Order 2005. The Partnership has previously taken the view that it would wish to appoint the maximum of 5 non-Councillor Members, as permitted by legislation.
- 2.2 Non-Councillor members were originally appointed by Scottish Ministers during 2006 and 2007 for initial 2-year terms. Legislation provides for subsequent non-Councillor appointments to be made by the Partnership, subject to formal endorsement by Scottish Ministers. There is no limit to the number of times that a non-Councillor member can be appointed or to the number of years he or she can serve. The Partnership has generally made non-Councillor appointments for an initial period of 2 years, with further 2-year extensions subject to agreement by the Partnership Board.

- 2.3 At the meeting on 17 September 2019 the Partnership agreed to the appointments of Paul Cronin and Heather Anderson following interviews held by the Executive Committee (Report RTP/19/33 refers). Those applications were endorsed by the Cabinet Secretary and the new non-Councillor members attended their first Board meeting in December 2019.
- 2.4 Since the last meeting of the Partnership, another resignation was received from Bob Benson, who resigned at the end of his two-year tenure with effect from 31 December 2019. In response to the previous advert for a non-Councillor member to join the Board, three formal applications were received, however, one of those applicants, Bryan Doyle, could not attend the arranged interviews at the time due to a clash with work commitments. On the declaration of a further vacancy the Executive Committee agreed to invite Bryan back for interview which took place on Thursday 20 February.
- 2.5 Bryan is an Electrical Engineer and a Project Manager for SSEN. He has also participated in the 2050 Young Leaders' Programme on Climate Change. With the advent of EV and low carbon transport, the Board Members felt that with Bryan's knowledge of the regional landscape and the emerging field of low carbon technologies he would be an admirable addition to the Tactran Board. The Executive Committee therefore approved Bryan's application and agreed to submit his application to the Cabinet Secretary for endorsement. An update on the progress of that submission will be reported to the Board meeting.

### **3. FURTHER RESIGNATION**

- 3.1 Since the interview conducted by the Executive Committee, a further resignation has been received from David Scotney as a non-Councillor member of the Board. David has served on the Tactran Board since September 2010 and has provided a valuable contribution over that period. It is proposed that the vacancy now be advertised as widely as possible to address the issue of representation of women on the boards of Scottish public authorities as outlined in the Gender Representation on Public Boards (Scotland) Act 2018 that received Royal Assent on 9 March 2018.

### **4. CONSULTATIONS**

- 4.1 Transport Scotland was consulted on the advertising of the vacancy for the non-Councillor member of the Board.

### **5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Costs associated with seeking appointment to the vacancies of non-Councillor members arising from the two resignations will be met from the approved 2019/20 Core Revenue Budget provision for Board Expenses.

## **6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 In making any new non-Councillor member appointments the Partnership must have regard to the Gender Representation on Public Boards (Scotland) Act 2018 and related guidance, and any other relevant guidance and objectives in relation to achieving gender balance and diversity in the membership of public sector boards.

**Tom Flanagan**  
**Director**

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### **NOTE**

Background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (and not containing confidential or exempt information), relied on to a material extent in preparing the above Report.

Report to Partnership RTP/19/33, Appointment of Non-Councillor Members, 17 September 2019

Gender Representation on Public Boards (Scotland) Act 2018

Public Sector Equalities Duty Reporting, 12 April 2019 (RTP/19/14)

