

Midlothian Council agrees that we need to follow in the footsteps of Westminster, and bring our portfolios, and Committees into the 21st century. It cannot be right that we expect those who may be very ill, bereaved, having maternity or paternity time off, etc., to turn up to vote or take their place at a meeting or committee. By continuing in the present way, where only the designated committee member can take part in the meeting, we risk a democratic deficit where all parties, and therefore constituents are not fully represented. It makes sense therefore that we allow a stand in, substitute to take their place. We recommend a cross party group be formed to discuss and bring the present system up to date.

Proposed by: Councillor Dianne Alexander



Seconded By: Councillor Kenneth Baird



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