

## **General Purposes Committee – Membership and Terms of Reference**

### **Report by Director, Corporate Resources**

#### **1 Purpose of Report**

This report sets out the Membership in terms of reference of the General Purposes Committee.

#### **2 Membership and Terms of Reference**

The terms of reference of the Committee as provided for in the Scheme of Administration appended to the Standing Orders which were approved by the Council on 29 June 2009, is as follows:-

- (i) the determination and administration of all licences and permits under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, the Marriage (Scotland) Act 1977 as amended and other relative Acts, Regulations and Orders not falling to be dealt with under statute or otherwise by the Midlothian Licensing Board or any other Committee;
- (ii) the administration of Trusts and charitable funds on behalf of the Council, except those relating solely to education or social work;
- (iii) the administration of (a) the Trust Fund arising from the extension to the Blinkbonny Opencast Coal Site; (b) the Monteith Houses Fund; (c) the balance to be used for job creation projects arising from the proposed reopening of a Drift Mine at Blinkbonny; and (d) the Trust Funds arising from Gourlaw Farm, Newbigging and Shewington Opencast Coal Sites;
- (iv) extending support, on behalf of the Council, for the maintenance and development of twinning partnerships; and
- (v) other appropriate miscellaneous matters.

The Committee will comprise 18 members of the Council. The Chair will be Councillor M Russell. The Committee has normally met every four weeks. The quorum for meetings of the Committee will be six Councillors. The Minutes of the Meetings of the Committee will be submitted to the next ordinary meeting of the Committee for approval and to the Council both for information and to enable it to consider any recommendations contained therein.

### **3 Sub Committees**

There are two Sub-Committees of the Committee namely:-

(a) the Blinkbonny Sub-Committee

This Sub-Committee will make recommendations to the General Purposes Committee in respect of the administration of (i) the Trust Fund arising from the extension to the Blinkbonny Opencast Coal Site; (ii) the Monteith Houses Fund; and (iii) any balance to be used for job creation projects arising from the proposed re-opening of the drift mine at Blinkbonny. The Sub-Committee will comprise Councillors Russell Baxter, Coventry Imrie, Johnstone and Rosie.

The Chair will be Councillor M Russell. The Sub-Committee will meet as required. The quorum for meetings of the Sub-Committee will be two Members. The Minutes of the Sub-Committee will be submitted to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee for approval. They will also be submitted to General Purposes Committee, both for information and allow the Committee to consider any recommendations contained in them.

(b) Gourlaw Sub-Committee

The Sub-Committee will make recommendations to the General Purposes Committee in respect of the administration of the Trust Fund arising from the Gourlaw Farm, Newbigging and Shewington Opencast Coal Sites. The Sub-Committee will comprise Councillors Russell, Baxter, Constable, Coventry, Imrie and Thompson.

The Chair will be Councillor M Russell. The Sub-Committee will meet as required. The quorum for meetings of the Sub-Committee will be two Members. The Minutes of the Sub-Committee will be submitted to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee for approval. They will also be submitted to the General Purposes Committee both for information and to allow the Committee to consider any recommendations contained in them.

#### **4.1 Resource Implications**

There are no resource implications arising from this report.

#### **4.2 Risk Implications**

There are no risk implications arising from this report..

### **Strategy**

There are no strategy implications arising from this report.

### **Consultations**

No consultations have been undertaken in connection with this report.

### **Equalities**

An equalities impact assessment has not been required in connection with this report.

### **Sustainability**

There are no sustainability implications arising from the report.

## **5 Recommendation**

The Committee is recommended to note the Membership and Terms of Reference.

**21 May 2012**

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**Background papers: Standing Orders              (RGA)**