

Social Work Complaints Review Panel**Report by John Blair, Director, Resources****1 Purpose of Report**

To invite the Council to update the membership of the pool of Elected Members that are eligible to serve on the Social Work Complaints Review Panel

2 Background

- 2.1** The Council last considered this issue 25 June 2013, when it was agreed that the pool of members consist of Councillors Beattie, Bryant, Constable and Thompson.

The Council's Standing Orders provide that the pool of Elected Members be drawn from the membership of the Cabinet. In the light of the fact that Councillor Beattie is no longer a member of the Cabinet, it is necessary to appoint one further member to the pool.

Councillor Johnstone, whilst being a Cabinet member, also holds the Portfolio for Social Work matters and as such there is a potential for a conflict of interest. Councillor Rosie is eligible to be appointed to the pool of Elected Members.

3 Report Implications**3.1 Resource**

None

3.2 Risk

The Council is obliged to consider Social Work Complaints within specified timescales and as such it is essential that the pool of members is maintained at it's full strength. A failure to do so could result in the Council failing to discharge its statutory duty timeously.

3.3 Single Midlothian Plan and Business Transformation

Themes addressed in this report:

- ☐ Community safety
- ☐ Adult health, care and housing
- ☐ Getting it right for every Midlothian child
- ☐ Improving opportunities in Midlothian
- ☐ Sustainable growth
- ☐ Business transformation and Best Value
- ☒ None of the above

3.4 Key Priorities within the Single Midlothian Plan
N/A

3.5 Impact on Performance and Outcomes
N/A

3.5 Adopting a Preventative Approach
N/A

3.6 Involving Communities and Other Stakeholders
N/A

3.7 Ensuring Equalities
N/A

3.8 Supporting Sustainable Development
N/A

3.9 IT Issues
N/A

4 Recommendations

The Council is invited to appoint Councillor Rosie to the pool of Elected members eligible to serve on the Social work Complaints Review Panel.

Date 7 March 2014

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Background Papers:

Declaration Box

Instructions: *This box must be completed by the author of the report. The box will be copied and saved by the Council Secretariat who will delete it from the report prior to photocopying the agenda.*

Title of Report:

Meeting Presented to:

Author of Report:

I confirm that I have undertaken the following actions before submitting this report to the Council Secretariat (Check boxes to confirm):-

- ☐ *All resource implications have been addressed. Any financial and HR implications have been approved by the Head of Finance and Integrated Service Support.*
- ☐ *All risk implications have been addressed.*
- ☐ *All other report implications have been addressed.*
- ☐ *My Director has endorsed the report for submission to the Council Secretariat.*

For Cabinet reports, please advise the Council Secretariat if the report has an education interest. This will allow the report to be located on the Cabinet agenda among the items in which the Religious Representatives are entitled to participate.

Likewise, please advise the Council Secretariat if any report for Midlothian Council has an education interest. The Religious Representatives are currently entitled to attend meetings of the Council in a non-voting observer capacity, but with the right to speak (but not vote) on any education matter under consideration, subject always to observing the authority of the Chair.