

Appointment of Provost**Report by John Blair, Director, Resources****1 Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to invite the Council to fill the vacancy in the role of Provost.

2 Background

2.1 The Council at its meeting on 13 February 2018, having considered a report regarding the requirement for the Council, in terms of section 4 (6) of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994, to fill a casual vacancy in the role of Provost as soon as practicable, agreed:-

- (a) to appoint Councillor Margot Russell to act as Provost until the Council meeting on 27 March 2018;
- (b) to leave the role of Depute Provost vacant meantime;
- (c) to note that Councillor Russell would revert to her role as Depute Provost on demitting the role of Provost at the commencement of the said meeting on 27 March 2018; and
- (d) to hold a further election to appoint a Provost on Councillor Russell demitting that office at the said meeting on 27 March 2018.

2.2 On 27 March 2018, as a result of a unanimous Motion to allow for meaningful dialogue between the political parties, the Council agreed to continue the decision on the appointment to the position of Provost until 8 May 2018

2.2 In accordance with that decision and following Councillor Russell having demitted office as Provost, in order to fulfil the requirements of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994, the Council is invited to fill the vacancy in the role of Provost.

3 Report Implications**3.1 Resource**

There are no additional resource issues arising from this report.

3.2 Risk

The Council would be in contravention of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994 should it fail to appoint a Provost at this meeting.

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
- X None of the above

3.4 Key Priorities within the Single Midlothian Plan

This report does not impact on the key priorities within the Single Midlothian Plan.

3.5 Impact on Performance and Outcomes

The report does not directly impact on Midlothian Council's performance and outcomes.

3.6 Adopting a Preventative Approach

The report does not directly impact on actions and plans in place to adopt a preventative approach.

3.7 Involving Communities and Other Stakeholders

The report does not directly relate to involving communities.

3.8 Ensuring Equalities

This report does not recommend any change to policy or practice and therefore does not require an Equalities Impact Assessment.

3.9 Supporting Sustainable Development

There are no sustainability issues arising from this report.

3.10 IT Issues

There are no IT issues arising from this report.

4 Recommendations

The Council is invited to appoint a Provost.

Date 19 April 2018

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Background Papers: Report to Midlothian Council on 13 February 2018
 Minute of Midlothian Council of 13 February 2018
 Report to Midlothian Council on 27 March 2018
 Minute of Midlothian Council of 27 March 2018