

COSLA Governance - Appointments

Summary and Recommendations

Community Wellbeing Spokesperson

Councillor Elena Whitham (East Ayrshire Council; SNP Group) and Councillor Kelly Parry (Midlothian Council; SNP Group) have been sharing the role of Community Wellbeing Spokesperson. Councillor Whitham has advised that due to other commitments, she will no longer be able to continue in this shared role after 31 December 2020.

Health and Social Care Spokesperson

The formal confirmation of Councillor Stuart Currie (East Lothian Council; SNP Group) as Health and Social Care Spokesperson was not possible earlier in the year due to the cancellation of March Convention due to Covid.

This paper invites Convention to ratify Councillor Kelly Parry in the role of Community Wellbeing Spokesperson from 1 January 2021 and Councillor Stuart Currie in the role of Health and Social Care Spokesperson.

References

Previous reports:

- 17-10-06 Item 04 Appointment of Interim Spokesperson (Convention)

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October 2020

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COSLA Position – Constitution

1. It is the responsibility of Convention to appoint COSLA's Spokespersons. Each Spokesperson plays a pivotal role within COSLA. The role includes acting as COSLA's primary point of contact with Government Ministers and others on relevant issues, developing relationships with partner organisations, engaging with the media, and enabling and supporting councils to contribute to the work of COSLA.

What is Changing

2. Councillor Kelly Parry, who currently shares the role of Community Wellbeing Spokesperson, will be taking full responsibility for the role from 1 January 2021.
3. Councillor Stuart Currie has been acting in the role of Health and Social Care Spokesperson for some time. Due to Convention not meeting earlier in the year, this has yet to be formally reported to Convention.

Next Steps

4. Convention is invited to ratify Councillor Kelly Parry's full-time appointment as Community Wellbeing Spokesperson and Councillor Stuart Currie's appointment as Health and Social Care Spokesperson.

October 2020