
Report to Clackmannanshire Council

Date of Meeting: 14 May 2015

**Subject: Representation on Outside Bodies:
Children's Hearing Scotland, Clackmannanshire Area
Support Team**

Report by: Head of Strategy & Customer Services

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1. Councillor Les Sharp has submitted his resignation as the Council's representative on Children's Hearing Scotland, Clackmannanshire Area Support Team. The purpose of this report, therefore, is to seek a decision from Council on its future representation on the Area Support Team.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1. It is recommended that Council:
- 2.1.1 considers whether or not it wishes to continue to have a representative on the Area Support Team;
 - 2.1.2 should it agree to have a representative on the Area Support Team, nominates the Convenor of Education, Sport & Leisure to the position.

3.0 Considerations

- 3.1 In June, 2012, the Council nominated Councillor Sharp as its representative on Children's Hearing Scotland, Clackmannanshire Area Support Team. Following Councillor Sharp's appointment as Leader of the Council on 3 November, 2014, there are now conflicting commitments, therefore, Councillor Sharp has submitted a letter of resignation to Children's Hearing Scotland, Clackmannanshire Area Support Team (AST).
- 3.2 The resulting vacancy, if filled, is required to be determined by Council.
- 3.3 The role of local authority representative is to have an overview of the Children's Hearings System and the Children's Panel in their own area. They will be aware of local issues and act as an important link between the Children's Panel and local authorities. Given the Convenor of Education,

Sport & Leisure is children's champion in Clackmannanshire, there are clearly strong synergies with a role on the Children's Hearing System.

- 3.4 The representative is required to attend 2 AST meetings and 4 Area Team meetings annually. There is a current proposal to reduce this to 1 AST meeting and 2 Area Team meetings from June 2015, though the dates are still to be agreed.
- 3.5 In accordance with Section 4 of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, every Elected Member has a personal responsibility to register interests financial and otherwise. The Code advises that Councillors must now register all directorships and positions of office in public bodies, clubs, organisations and societies. Guidance notes on the registration of interests have been issued to every Clackmannanshire Councillor.
- 3.6 Elected Members nominated to external bodies may be required to undertake training in relation to their duties on that body. This will be provided in-house and Members should be prepared to attend, if possible
- 3.7 Should the Council nominate an Elected Member to the Area Support Team, that Member will have a personal responsibility to register the position in the register of interests.

4.0 Resource Implications

4.1 Financial Details

N/A

4.2 Staffing

N/A

5.0 Exempt Reports

- 5.1 Is this report exempt? No

6.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

- (1) **Our Priorities** (Please double click on the check box)

The Council is effective, efficient and recognised for excellence

- (2) **Council Policies** (Please detail)

7.0 Equalities Impact

- 7.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations?
Yes No

8.0 Legality

- 8.1 It has been confirmed that in adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes

9.0 Appendices

- 9.1 Please list any appendices attached to this report. If there are no appendices, please state "none".

None

10.0 Background Papers

- 10.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at which the report is considered)

- The Standards Commission for Scotland, Guidance on the Councillors Code of Conduct.
- Cllr Sharp's Letter of Resignation to Children's Hearing Scotland, Clackmannanshire Area Support Team.
- Terms of Reference for representatives on the Area Support Team (available on the Members' portal)

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Approved by

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