

South Ayrshire Council

**Report by Chief Governance Officer
to South Ayrshire Council
of 12 December 2024**

Subject: Appointments to Convention of Scottish Local Authorities Policy Boards

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek the Council's approval to make alterations to the list of representatives on the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) Policy Boards.

2. Recommendation

2.1 It is recommended that the Council:

2.1.1 notes the change in the representative nominated by the Conservative Group identified in para 4.1 as the Council's representative on the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) Children and Young People Policy Board; and

2.1.2 considers any other amendments which might be required to COSLA Policy Board representation.

3. Background

- 3.1 At its meeting on 29 June 2022, the Council agreed that Councillor Stephen Ferry be appointed as the Council's representative on the COSLA Education and Children Policy Board (now the Children and Young People Policy Board).

- 3.2 At a special meeting on 19 August 2024, the Council agreed that Councillor William Grant replace Councillor Stephen Ferry as Portfolio Holder for Education.

4. Proposals

- 4.1 The Conservative Group has requested that Councillor William Grant replaces Councillor Stephen Ferry as the Council's representative on the COSLA Children and Young People Policy Board.

- 4.2 Members may wish to consider any other amendments which might be required to representation on COSLA Policy Boards.

5. Legal and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

5.2 There are no procurement implications arising from this report.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 Minimal costs for attending meetings, etc, can be met from existing budget.

7. Human Resources Implications

7.1 Not applicable.

8. Risk

8.1 *Risk Implications of Adopting the Recommendations*

8.1.1 There are no risks associated with adopting the recommendations.

8.2 *Risk Implications of Rejecting the Recommendations*

8.2.1 Rejecting the recommendations will result in the Council not being represented on COSLA Policy Boards.

9. Equalities

9.1 The proposals in this report have been assessed through the Equality Impact Assessment Scoping process. There are no significant potential positive or negative equality impacts of agreeing the recommendations and therefore an Equalities Impact Assessment is not required. A copy of the Equalities Scoping Assessment is attached as [Appendix 1](#).

10. Sustainable Development Implications

10.1 ***Considering Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*** - This report does not propose or seek approval for a plan, policy, programme or strategy or document otherwise described which could be considered to constitute a plan, programme, policy or strategy.

11. Options Appraisal

11.1 An options appraisal has not been carried out in relation to the subject matter of this report.

12. Link to Council Plan

12.1 The matters referred to in this report contribute to enabling services through the delivery of sound decision making and governance.

13. Results of Consultation

13.1 There has been no consultation on the contents of this report.

13.2 Consultation has taken place with Councillor Martin Dowe, Portfolio Holder for Corporate and Strategic, and the contents of this report reflect any feedback provided.

14. Next Steps for Decision Tracking Purposes

- 14.1 If the recommendations above are approved by Members, the Chief Governance Officer will ensure that all necessary steps are taken to ensure full implementation of the decision within the following timescales, with the completion status reported to the Leadership Panel in the 'Council and Leadership Panel Decision Log' at each of its meetings until such time as the decision is fully implemented:

<i>Implementation</i>	<i>Due date</i>	<i>Managed by</i>
Notify COSLA of the change of representation on Policy Boards	20 December 2024	Service Lead – Democratic Governance

Background Papers **Report to South Ayrshire Council of 29 June 2022 - [Appointments to Convention of Scottish Local Authorities Policy Boards](#)**

Report to South Ayrshire Council of 19 August 2024 – [Appointments to Panel](#)

Person to Contact **Catriona Caves, Chief Governance Officer
County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr, KA7 1DR
Phone 01292 612556
E-mail catriona.caves@south-ayrshire.gov.uk**

Date: 29 November 2024

**South Ayrshire Council
Equality Impact Assessment
Scoping Template**

Equality Impact Assessment is a legal requirement under the Public Sector Duty to promote equality of the Equality Act 2010. Separate guidance has been developed on Equality Impact Assessment's which will guide you through the process and is available to view here: <https://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/equalities/impact-assessment.aspx>

Further guidance is available here: <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/publication-download/assessing-impact-and-public-sector-equality-duty-guide-public-authorities/>

The Fairer Scotland Duty ('the Duty'), Part 1 of the Equality Act 2010, came into force in Scotland from 1 April 2018. It places a legal responsibility on Councils to actively consider ('pay due regard to') how we can reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage, when making strategic decisions. [FSD Guidance for Public Bodies](#) in respect of the Duty, was published by the Scottish Government in March 2018 and revised in October 2021. See information here: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/fairer-scotland-duty-guidance-public-bodies/>

1. Policy details

Policy Title	Representation on Convention of Scottish Local Authorities Policy Boards
Lead Officer (Name/Position/Email)	Catriona Caves, Chief Governance Officer – catriona.caves@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

2. Which communities, groups of people, employees or thematic groups do you think will be, or potentially could be, impacted upon by the implementation of this policy? Please indicate whether these would be positive or negative impacts

Community or Groups of People	Negative Impacts	Positive impacts
Age – men and women, girls & boys	-	-
Disability	-	-
Gender Reassignment (Trans/Transgender Identity)	-	-
Marriage or Civil Partnership	-	-
Pregnancy and Maternity	-	-
Race – people from different racial groups, (BME) ethnic minorities and Gypsy/Travellers	-	-
Religion or Belief (including lack of belief)	-	-
Sex – (issues specific to women & men or girls & boys)	-	-

Community or Groups of People	Negative Impacts	Positive impacts
Sexual Orientation – person’s sexual orientation i.e. LGBT+, lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, heterosexual/straight	-	-
Thematic Groups: Health, Human Rights & Children’s Rights	-	-

3. What likely impact will this policy have on people experiencing different kinds of social disadvantage i.e. The Fairer Scotland Duty (This section to be completed for any Strategic Decisions). Consideration must be given particularly to children and families.

Socio-Economic Disadvantage	Negative Impacts	Positive impacts
Low Income/Income Poverty – cannot afford to maintain regular payments such as bills, food, clothing	-	-
Low and/or no wealth – enough money to meet Basic living costs and pay bills but have no savings to deal with any unexpected spends and no provision for the future	-	-
Material Deprivation – being unable to access basic goods and services i.e. financial products like life insurance, repair/replace broken electrical goods, warm home, leisure/hobbies	-	-
Area Deprivation – where you live (rural areas), where you work (accessibility of transport)	-	-
Socio-economic Background – social class i.e. parent’s education, employment and income	-	-

4. Do you have evidence or reason to believe that the policy will support the Council to:

General Duty and other Equality Themes Consider the ‘Three Key Needs’ of the Equality Duty	Level of Negative and/or Positive Impact (High, Medium or Low)
Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation	Low
Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not	Low
Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. (Does it tackle prejudice and promote a better understanding of equality issues?)	Low
Increase participation of particular communities or groups in public life	Low
Improve the health and wellbeing of particular communities or groups	Low
Promote the human rights of particular communities or groups	Low
Tackle deprivation faced by particular communities or groups	Low

5. Summary Assessment

Is a full Equality Impact Assessment required? (A full Equality Impact Assessment must be carried out if impacts identified as Medium and/or High)	YES NO
Rationale for decision: This report seeks the Council's approval to amend representation on COSLA's Policy Boards. Their decision on this has no specific equality implications	
Signed: Catriona Caves	Chief Governance Officer
Date: 18 October 2024	