

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Council
DATE	16 May, 2012
DIRECTOR	Stewart Carruth
TITLE OF REPORT	Appointment of Baillies
REPORT NUMBER:	CG/12/044

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To request that members consider appointing Baillies to assist in the undertaking of the ceremonial duties on behalf of the Lord Provost.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Council –

(a) takes a view as to whether the office of Baillies be continued.

If Council is supportive of continuing, it is further recommended that Council –

(b) appoints Baillies as it deems appropriate;

(c) notes the decision of Council of 16 May, 2007 (article 14 refers), whereby it was agreed that any serving former Lord Provost would automatically become a Baillie;

(d) agrees that the allocation of robes and chains be at the discretion of the Lord Provost; and

(e) agrees that the Baillies will receive no remuneration, but notes that those undertaking civic duties on the Lord Provost are entitled to claim reimbursement of receipted expenditure within the limits specified for the Council.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no additional financial implications (other than those outlined at 5.5 of this report) as it is recommended that the Baillies will not receive remuneration for their duties.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

None.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

- 5.1 The role of Baillie was reintroduced at the meeting of Council of 25 June, 2003 (article 22 refers) in order that a small number of named Councillors could deputise for the Lord Provost at civic events and host civic functions, enabling a sense of tradition to be brought to these events, and reduce the demands made on the Lord Provost.
- 5.2 At the meeting of Council of 16 May, 2007, members further agreed that any serving former Lord Provost would automatically become a Baillie (article 14 refers).
- 5.3 In 2003, four Baillies were appointed (one from each political group), and in 2007 five Baillies were appointed (one from each political group, and Councillor Reynolds as a former Lord Provost).
- 5.4 The robes and chains which Councillors can be invited to wear on formal occasions are those of former Baillies (pre 1975). Members are asked to consider whether the robes and chains (outwith those allocated to the Baillies) should continue to be allocated to Councillors by invitation by the Lord Provost on specific occasions (such as graduation ceremonies, Remembrance Sunday and civic funerals).
- 5.5 In 2003, it was agreed that Baillies would not receive remuneration, and the same decision was taken by members in 2007. However those undertaking civic duties on behalf of the Lord Provost are entitled to claim reimbursement if receipted expenditure within the limits specified for the Council (currently £4,000).

6. IMPACT

Corporate – the implementation of the recommendations will enable a sense of tradition to be brought to civic events and functions in circumstances when the Lord Provost may not be able to attend.

Public – this report is not likely to be of interest to members of the public.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Report to meeting of Council – 25 June, 2003 (Appointment of Baillies)
- Report to statutory meeting of Council – 16 May, 2007 (Appointment of Baillies)

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Rebecka Coull, Committee Officer
rcoull@aberdeencity.gov.uk
(01224) 522869