

COMMITTEE	Communities Housing and Infrastructure
DATE	29 th August 2017
REPORT TITLE	Appointment of Elected Member Representative for Powering Aberdeen
REPORT NUMBER	CHI/17/177
INTERIM DIRECTOR	Bernadette Marjoram
REPORT AUTHOR	Terri Vogt

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT:

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek the appointment of an Elected Member Representative for Powering Aberdeen - Aberdeen's Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP).

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Committee:
- (a) Appoint an Elected Member to Powering Aberdeen.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Powering Aberdeen - Aberdeen's Sustainable Energy Action Plan was approved by Full Council in October 2016. It sets out ambitious plans to drive the energy transformation necessary for Aberdeen to become a smart low carbon city.
- 3.2 This transition will not only reduce emissions but improve wellbeing and quality of life, provide opportunity for diversification of the economy and support smarter, lower cost and more energy efficient living. Powering Aberdeen is driven by a vision to realise these benefits for Aberdeen citizens and businesses supported by the need to reduce carbon emissions.
- 3.3 As part of developing Powering Aberdeen baseline emissions for the city have been established and modelled to establish estimates for emission reduction targets. The following targets have been established from a 2005 baseline.
- 31% reduction by 2020
 - 50% reduction by 2030

- 3.4 Five key areas of activity have been identified for action to achieve these reduction targets.
- Leadership and behaviour change
 - Improving energy efficiency
 - Managing resources more efficiently which will in turn reduce carbon emissions
 - Increased uptake of alternative technologies
 - Developing a low carbon transport fleet and infrastructure that encourages cycling, walking, and use of public transport.
- 3.5 The plan builds on existing activity such as the ongoing programme of energy efficiency improvements, development of the district heating network, new energy developments including the energy centre at the AECC and the Energy from Waste plant, the programme to convert LED street lighting and the hydrogen strategy.
- 3.6 Powering Aberdeen evolved from a voluntary commitment to reduce carbon emissions as a signatory to the Covenant of Mayor's, a European initiative to encourage cities to commit to reduce emissions. Since this time the Scottish Government has published a draft Energy Strategy to provide a common framework for energy and shape future policy and decision making.
- 3.7 The aim of the strategy is to deliver a stable managed transition to low carbon energy supplies, adopting a "whole systems" approach covering heat, power and transport. Delivering local solutions and community empowerment in energy is a strong theme in the strategy. Powering Aberdeen provides a framework to deliver this.
- 3.8 Crucial to the successful implementation of Powering Aberdeen will be partnership working across the public, private and third sectors. Partners will need to work collaboratively to develop, measure and monitor initiatives.
- 3.9 The programme is co-ordinated by a Programme Manager supported by a Project Sponsor Eric Owens Interim Head of Planning and Sustainable Development and Project Champion previously Councillor Jean Morrison.
- 3.10 At the meeting of Full Council on the 11th May 2016 it was agreed that Powering Aberdeen would be governed by a steering group representing different stakeholder groups within the city and that this would be chaired by the nominated elected member. This steering Group has since been established and has met on three occasions
- 3.11 Councillor Jean Morrison is no longer with the Council and an alternative elected member needs to be appointed. The role of the elected member is to chair and support the activity of the Powering Aberdeen steering group.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

6. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

Financial

- 6.1 None identified

Employee

- 6.2 None identified

Customer / Citizen

- 6.3 None identified

Environmental

- 6.4 None identified

Technological

- 6.5 None identified

Legal

- 6.6 None identified

Reputational

- 6.7 As the Powering Aberdeen Steering Group is made up of external stakeholders there is a risk that not appointing an Elected Member to continue as chair will show a lack of commitment to the programme by the Council.

7. IMPACT SECTION

- 7.1 Powering Aberdeen seeks to drive the energy transition necessary for Aberdeen to become a smart, low emission city building on the significant activity that has been undertaken to date and drawing this together to the maximum benefit of Aberdeen citizens.

Economy

- 7.2 There will be no impact on economy arising from the recommendations.

People

- 7.3 An Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment is not required as the proposal does not disproportionately impact on persons with protected characteristics compared to persons without such characteristics.

Place

7.4 There will be no impact on place arising from the recommendations.

Technology

7.5 There will be no impact on technology arising from the recommendations.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Powering Aberdeen – Aberdeen’s Sustainable Energy Action Plan can be found at http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/council_government/shaping_aberdeen/SustainableEnergyActionPlan.asp

9. APPENDICES (if applicable)

There are no appendices for this report

10. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Terri Vogt
Powering Aberdeen Programme Manager
Tevogt@aberdeencity.gov.uk
01224 522 677

HEAD OF SERVICE DETAILS

Eric Owens
Interim Head of Planning and Sustainable Development
eowens@aberdeencity.gov.uk
01224 523 133