

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	City Growth and Resources (Special)
DATE	3 August 2022
EXEMPT	No
CONFIDENTIAL	No
REPORT TITLE	Appointment of Members to Sub-Committees
REPORT NUMBER	COM/22/148
DIRECTOR	Gale Beattie
CHIEF OFFICER	Fraser Bell
REPORT AUTHOR	Mark Masson
TERMS OF REFERENCE	GD 8.7

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek to re-establish the Business Rates Appeals Sub Committee and the Community Asset Transfer Review Sub Committee and thereafter determine compositions and make appointments to the sub committees under the Committee's remit.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee:-

- 2.1 agree to re-establish the Business Rates Appeals Sub Committee and Community Asset Transfer Review Sub Committee; and
- 2.2 agree the composition and appoint five members to each of the sub committees.

3. CURRENT SITUATION

- 3.1 Council at its Statutory Meeting on 18 May 2022 noted that the relevant committees would deal with the re-establishment of their sub committees.
- 3.2 The Committee is requested to set the membership of the following sub committees in accordance with Standing Order 47.10, noting that the previous number of elected members on both were five. It is worth noting that the sub committees were not required to meet during the last local government term, and for this reason, officers are recommending that the number of members on each remain at five.

Sub Committee	Number of Council Representatives Previously Appointed
Business Rates Appeals Sub Committee	5 (and 5 substitute members)
Community Asset Transfer Review Sub Committee	5 (1 per Political Group and 5 substitute members)

- 3.3 Council at its meeting on 18 May 2022, considered possible compositions for sub committees and working groups and the following was noted:-

Number of Members	Composition
5	2 SNP, 1 Liberal Democrat, 1 Labour and 1 Conservative

Business Rates Appeals Sub Committee

- 3.4 The remit of the Business Rates Appeals Sub Committee is to consider appeals against the rates claimed from appellants on the ground that the appellant is being improperly charged, (section 238 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1947 refers).

Community Asset Transfer Review Sub Committee

- 3.5 Part 3 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 requires the Council to consider requests from communities for the transfer of land and buildings.
- 3.6 The remit of the Community Asset Transfer Review Sub Committee is to consider reviews by community bodies if the request is refused; if no decision is given within the time allowed; or if the community transfer body does not agree with conditions imposed.
- 3.7 The review of the Community Asset Transfer decision cannot be delegated to officers and cannot be carried out by Members who were responsible for determining the original application regarding the asset transfer request.
- 3.8 The Convener should be elected from amongst its membership.
- 3.9 Training will be provided to the nominated Members and substitutes prior to consideration of the first review.
- 3.10 The City Growth and Resources Committee on 25 April 2019 agreed to (1) re-establish the Community Asset Transfer Review Sub Committee; and (2) appoint five Members (1 per Group) and five substitute Members to the Sub Committee, where none of the substantive or substitute Members have been

involved in the decision-making in respect of any Community Asset Transfers considered by the City Growth and Resources Committee.

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 contained in this report.

5.2 Under Section 56 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the Council may arrange for the discharge of any of its functions by a Committee or a Sub Committee. Any such committee may appoint one or more sub-committees

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

7. RISK

7.1 The assessment of risk contained within the table below is considered to be consistent with the Council's Risk Appetite Statement.

Category	Risks	Primary Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk Level	*Target Risk Level (L, M or H) <small>*taking into account controls/control actions</small>	*Does Target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
Strategic Risk	No significant risks identified against this category			
Compliance	If appointments are not made to certain sub-committees, Council will not be able to consider appeals as required by Council procedure or legislation, as appeals cannot be considered by the parent committee or by officers	Committee agrees the appointment of members to sub-committees	L	Y

Operational	No significant risks identified against this category			
Financial	No significant risks identified against this category			
Reputational	No significant risks identified against this category			
Environment / Climate	No significant risks identified against this category			

8. OUTCOMES

8.1 The proposals in this report have no impact on the Council Delivery Plan or Local Outcome Improvement Plan.

9. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Integrated Impact Assessment	Full impact assessment not required.
Data Protection Impact Assessment	Not required.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 None

11. APPENDICES

11.1 None

12. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

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