

Report

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| Report to: | South Lanarkshire Council |
| Date of Meeting: | 25 September 2019 |
| Report by: | Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) |

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| Subject: | Local Government By-election – Electoral Ward 8 (East Kilbride Central North) |
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- advise of the outcome of the by-election held in Ward 8 (East Kilbride Central North)
- allow consideration to be given to the allocation of vacant committee places following the by-election
- note the updated representation from the Liberal Democrat Group on certain working groups
- allow consideration for an additional elected member to serve on the South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Board

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Council is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that it be noted that, following the by-election held on 29 August 2019, Grant Ferguson has been elected to represent Electoral Ward 8 (East Kilbride Central North) on South Lanarkshire Council;
- (2) that the vacant place on each of the Resource, Planning, Licensing and Executive Committees be filled by a representative from the SNP Group;
- (3) that the updated representation from the Liberal Democrat Group on working groups, as detailed at paragraph 5.3, be noted;
- (4) that the vacant place on the South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Board be filled by a representative from the Independent Group; and
- (5) that authority be delegated to the Depute Chief Executive and/or his representative(s), in consultation with the Leaders of the relevant political/independent groups, to finalise all memberships.

3. Background

3.1. Arrangements were made to hold a by-election on Thursday 29 August 2019 to fill the vacancy in Electoral Ward 8 (East Kilbride Central North), a multi-member ward comprising 3 members.

4. Result of By-Election

4.1. Specific information in relation to the by-election in Ward 8 (East Kilbride Central North) is as follows:-

Electorate – 12,960
Percentage Poll – 26.7%
Total Valid Votes Cast – 3,405

Quota (number of votes required to be elected) – 1,703

Ballot Papers Rejected - 51

4.2. The number of first preference votes polled for each candidate was as follows:-

| Candidate | Party | No of first preference votes | Elected (Stage No) |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Grant Ferguson | Scottish National Party (SNP) | 1,582 | Yes (Stage 5) |
| Graham William Fisher | Scottish Conservative and Unionist | 498 | |
| Antony Lee | Scottish Green Party | 153 | |
| David MacKay | UKIP | 48 | |
| Paul MGarry | Scottish Liberal Democrats | 422 | |
| Stephen McNamara | Scottish Libertarian Party | 12 | |
| Kirsty Williams | Scottish Labour Party | 690 | |

4.3. Grant Ferguson has, therefore, been elected to represent Electoral Ward 8 (East Kilbride Central North) on South Lanarkshire Council.

5. Places on Committees etc

5.1. As reported previously to the Executive Committee in August 2019, vacancies were held pending the outcome of the by-election. Due to the updated political composition of the Council, it is proposed that the SNP Group be invited to fill the vacancies on the Resource, Planning, Licensing and Executive Committees.

5.2. It is intended that a comprehensive list of committee etc memberships will be submitted to the next meeting of the Executive Committee for noting.

5.3. The Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group has advised that he will be replaced by Councillor Dryburgh on the South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Working Group and by Councillor McGeever on the IT Working Group.

6. South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Board

6.1. As set out in the Memorandum of Understanding and Articles of Association, the Board has 5 Directors appointed by the Council. Currently, there are 3 elected members who serve on the Board plus the Chief Executive and Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources). Following the Chief Executive's retirement and subsequent resignation from the Board, it is proposed that this place be filled by an additional elected member from the Independent Group.

7. Employee Implications

7.1. None.

8. Financial Implications

8.1. None.

9. Other Implications

9.1. There are no risks or sustainability issues in terms of the information contained in this report.

10. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 10.1 There was no requirement for an equality impact assessment or formal consultation in terms of the information contained in this report.

Paul Manning

Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

16 September 2019

Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives

- ◆ Fair, open and sustainable
- ◆ Accountable, effective, efficient and transparent

Previous References

- ◆ Executive Committee of 28 August 2019

List of Background Papers

None

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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