

Recruitment of Appointed Member(s)

Date of meeting 13 December 2024

Date of report 3 December 2024

Report by Chief Executive / Partnership Secretary

1. Object of report

To recommend the Partnership commence a public appointment campaign for the recruitment of appointed members, including a specific appointment to represent access to Healthcare.

2. Current position

Members will be aware that the SPT Partnership Board is made up of both local authority nominated Councillors plus Appointed Members.

Appointed Members are appointed for a term of office of 4 years and there is no limit to the number of terms of office held. In addition, previous guidance issued has recommended that Appointed Members, while personal appointments, are appointed to assist in the strategic overview of the work of a RTP and not be engaged in representational activities. Under the Code of Conduct terms this also extends to the operational management of the RTP (planning, organising and execution involved in day to day activities and service delivery).

Appointed Members bring a range of benefits including expertise of working at Board level in business, public and/or voluntary sectors and are detached from politics at all levels. Appointed members are expected to contribute from a regional rather than local perspective and can also demonstrate financial acumen.

The Partnership has also previously confirmed an input from the Health sector is beneficial to its work, recognising the importance of transport to the continued delivery of healthcare. The current Health sector representative has intimated her intention to step down from the SPT Partnership Board as a result of pressures of NHS work. Ms Orr continues to work collaboratively with SPT on project specific matters, but it is now necessary to consider a replacement. As a result, all three Health Boards in the SPT area have been contacted, seeking nominations for consideration.

3. Current Proposals

It is necessary at this stage to consider vacancies which may arise in 2025. Four current member terms of office are due to conclude during 2025 and the Partnership now needs to consider the implementation of a public appointment process via a Recruitment Committee. It is therefore proposed to establish an Appointed Member Recruitment Committee which has both political and gender balance.

A Recruitment Committee of up to five SPT members is recommended, who will take responsibility for overseeing all stages of the Appointed Member recruitment. The process will

consider skills criteria, shortlisting and ultimately interview and recommendations for selection. All proposed Appointed Member appointments will ultimately be approved by the Partnership and the Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity of Scotland.

At the time of writing, a nomination has been received from the healthcare sector to fill the position currently held by Ms Orr. Early discussions are planned to determine the next steps to ensure this important position is filled, particularly in light of the recent government “Transport to Health: Delivery Plan”.

4. Partnership action

The Partnership is recommended to approve and implement an Appointed Member Recruitment Committee for the purpose of appointed member recruitment in 2025.

5. Consequences

Policy consequences	<i>None directly from the report</i>
Legal consequences	<i>None directly from the report</i>
Financial consequences	<i>None directly from the report</i>
Personnel consequences	<i>Support to the process will be given by the Partnership Secretary</i>
Equalities consequences	<i>SPT will comply with all equality duties</i>
Risk consequences	<i>None directly from the report</i>
Climate Change, Adaptation & Carbon consequences	<i>None</i>

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