

ELECTED MEMBERS EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY WORKING GROUP

The Council Executive considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Corporate Services seeking agreement for arrangements for the short-term working group on breaking down barriers to inclusion and participation for elected members.

It was recommended that the Council Executive:

1. Note council's decision of 25 January 2022 in relation to the development of a short-term working group (Appendix 1 of the report), subject to it being confirmed as part of the approved minute at the next meeting of council;
2. Note the provisions of Standing Order 52 in relation to working groups involving members (Appendix 2 of the report);
3. Agree that the working group be called the Elected Members Equality and Diversity Working Group;
4. Agree the remit for the Working Group (Appendix 3 of the report);
5. Appoint appropriate elected members to the Working Group;
6. Appoint the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Working Group from the elected members appointed;
7. Invite one representative from Disability Access West Lothian, Enable and Faith and Race Forum, or like organisations, to be members of the Working Group;
8. Agree that the Head of Corporate Services would be the Lead Officer for the Working Group;
9. Agree that the Working Group should meet as soon as reasonably practicable and thereafter as required by its work, with the aim of reporting to the meeting of full council on 22 June 2022; and
10. Agree that the Working Group should cooperate with and coordinate its work with the Partnership & Resources PDSP and should avoid, where possible, any duplication of work and resources.

Motion

"To agree recommendations 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9 and 10.

In relation to recommendation 5, to appoint two members from each of the three political groups, with names to be advised today or to the Clerk afterwards, noting that substitutes are allowed.

In relation to recommendation 6, to be determined at the next Council Executive following discussion between the appointed members.

In relation to recommendation 7, to invite one representative from Disability Access West Lothian, Enable and Faith and Race Forum, or like organisations, to be members of the Working Group, and, to ensure that input is available in relation to all the protected characteristics, to invite representatives of other organisations to take part as are identified by the Lead Officer in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Working Group.”

- Moved by the Chair and seconded by Councillor Kirsteen Sullivan.

Decision

To unanimously approve the terms of the motion.