

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



## COUNCIL EXECUTIVE

### APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT DIRECTORS TO WEST LOTHIAN LEISURE

#### REPORT BY DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (EDUCATION, PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION SERVICES)

#### A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform the Council Executive of the recommendations of the Nominations Committee of West Lothian Leisure (WLL) for the appointment of two Independent Directors to vacant positions on the Board of West Lothian Leisure.

#### B. RECOMMENDATION

That Council Executive agrees to the appointments of Ms Michelle Chambers-Cran and Ms Kim Walker to the Board of WLL as Independent Directors.

#### C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

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|---|---|
| <b>I Council Values</b>   | Focusing on our customers' needs; being honest, open and accountable; working in partnership.   |
| <b>II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)</b> | West Lothian Leisure is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee, the relationship with the sole owner and shareholder, West Lothian Council, is set out in the Articles of Association. |
| <b>III Implications for scheme of delegation</b>  | None  |
| <b>IV Impact on performance and performance indicators</b>  | The efficient operation of West Lothian Leisure contributes to key performance indicators in sports, leisure and culture.   |
| <b>V Relevance to Local Outcome Improvement Plan</b>  | We live longer, healthier lives and have reduced health inequalities. We live in resilient, cohesive and safe communities.  |
| <b>VI Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)</b>  | The council is providing WLL with core funding of £2.048 million in 2024/25.  |
| <b>VII Consultations at PDSP</b>  | Not applicable.   |
| <b>VIII Other consultations</b>   | West Lothian Leisure; Finance and Property Services.  |

## D. TERMS OF REPORT

WLL's Articles of Association provide for the appointment of a maximum of eleven Directors to WLL Board, with Council Directors not forming a majority. There are currently four Council Director positions, one Employee Director position and six Independent Director positions.

Two vacancies with Independent Director positions had arisen and so it was necessary to seek to make appointments to these. Independent Directors are appointed by the council. They do not receive remuneration for their services.

West Lothian Leisure established a Nominations Committee to guide West Lothian Council in relation to the selection of appropriate individuals for appointment as Independent Directors. The Nominations Committee membership included a Council Director and the Strategic Partnerships Manager in line with related provisions in the in the Articles of Association.

The Committee considered applications received following public advertisement and through subsequent interviews has recommended that Ms Michelle Chambers-Cran and Ms Kim Walker be appointed as Independent Directors to fill the vacant positions.

Ms Chambers-Cran is an experienced commercial leader in the health, fitness and wellbeing industry, with a track record of delivering performance improvement, income growth and capital investment projects across a multi-national portfolio of facilities.

Ms Walker is an experienced leadership development consultant with a strong background of leading and implementing business change, scrutinising the performance of complex businesses, analysing long term business needs and in Board governance across a range of relevant sectors.

## E. CONCLUSION

The Council Executive is invited to approve the appointments of Ms Chambers-Cran and Ms Walker as Independent Director, who in the view of the Nominations Committee have the relevant skills and experience to assist the company in carrying out its objects.

## F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

West Lothian Leisure Articles of Association:

<https://www.westlothianleisure.com/about-xcite/documents/>

Council Executive – 7 November 2023 - Proposed Changes to West Lothian Leisure Articles of Association - Report by Depute Chief Executive (Education, Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration Services and related minute:

<https://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/submissiondocuments.asp?submissionid=56645>

Appendices: None

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**Elaine Cook**

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**Education, Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration Services**

**16 April 2024**