



**REPORT TO: HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SERVICES COMMITTEE ON
WEDNESDAY 16 APRIL 2014**

**SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT TO MORAY WOMEN'S AID BOARD OF
DIRECTORS**

BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR (CORPORATE SERVICES)

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 The Committee are invited to consider whether there is a continuing requirement for two Elected Members on the Moray Women's Aid Board of Directors.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section III (E) (10) of the Council's Administrative Scheme relating to dealing with Adult Protection and Domestic Abuse issues.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Health and Social Care Services Committee:**
- (i) consider whether there is a continuing requirement for two Elected Members on the Moray Women's Aid Board of Directors; and**
 - (ii) agree that a report be submitted to The Moray Council detailing the outcome of the Committee's decision.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 On 28 November 2007, a report was submitted to the Education and Social Services Committee inviting the Committee to consider the appointment of two Elected Members to serve as Executive Directors on the Moray Women's Aid Board of Directors at Marleon House and three non-Executive Directors. During discussion, Members expressed concern about the number of representatives invited on to the Moray Women's Aid Board of Directors and felt that it would be more appropriate to reduce the number to two members. It was thereafter agreed that Councillors Leadbitter and Wright be nominated as Council representatives on the Moray Women's Aid Board of Directors (paragraph 45 of the Minute refers).

- 3.2 Following the local government election in May 2012, a report was submitted to The Moray Council on 9 May 2012, asking the Council to make appointments to outside bodies, which included Moray Women's Aid. At this meeting, the Council agreed that Councillors Leadbitter and Morton would represent the Council on the Moray Women's Aid Board of Directors (paragraph 16 of the Minute refers).
- 3.3 Councillors Leadbitter and Morton have served as Council representatives on the Moray Women's Aid Board of Directors since that time however Councillor Morton recently expressed a desire to resign from this position. A report was therefore submitted to The Moray Council on 11 February 2014 asking the Council to make appointments to outside bodies, which included the vacancy on Moray Women's Aid which had arisen as a result of Councillor Morton's resignation. At this meeting, it was agreed that consideration of the requirement for two Member representatives be deferred to the appropriate Service Committee and thereafter that the outcome be reported back to Full Council (paragraph 8 of the Minute refers).
- 3.4 Meetings of the Moray Women's Aid are held monthly at Marleon House in Elgin and the role and responsibilities of directors of the board are to:
- provide leadership and strategic direction to ensure the long term sustainability of the organisation;
 - oversee the legal, financial and operational management of the organisation;
 - provide guidance and support to the manager/organisation to ensure that the services provided to women and children are fitting, respectful and to the highest of standard; and
 - promote the aims, values and objectives of the organisation.
- 3.5 Committee should note that, in terms of the Moray Women's Aid Constitution, there is no requirement for any of its board members to be Moray Councillors. Therefore, the Committee are invited to consider whether there is a requirement for two Elected Members as representation for The Moray Council on the Moray Women's Aid Board of Directors and agree that a report be submitted to The Moray Council detailing the outcome of the Committee's decision.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Council/Community Planning Priorities

None.

(b) Policy and Legal

None.

(c) Financial implications

Allowances for nominated Members attendance at meetings of organisations appointed to is covered in the Councillors & Members Allowance Scheme.

(d) Risk Implications

None.

(e) Staffing Implications

None.

(f) Property

None.

(g) Equalities

None.

(h) Consultations

Consultations have taken place with Kathryn Macpherson, Senior Solicitor, the Democratic Services Manager and Head of Legal and Democratic Services whose comments have been incorporated in the report.

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 Following the resignation of Councillor Morton from the Moray Women's Aid which has resulted in a vacancy, the Committee is asked to consider whether there is a continuing requirement for two Elected Members on the Board of Directors of Moray Womens Aid and thereafter report the decision to The Moray Council.**

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Background Papers: with author
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