

SOUTH WEST WALES CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE

Report Title: Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair for South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee

Purpose of Report	To appoint a Chair and Vice Chair of the South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee
Recommendation	That members of the South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee appoint a Chair and Vice Chair of the South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee to be in office until the date of the next annual meeting.
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Finance Officer	N/A
Legal Officer	Craig Griffiths

Background:

1. The meetings of the South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee (“CJC”) must be chaired by the chair appointed by the members of the CJC, or if the chair is absent, the vice-chair.
2. At the first meeting of the CJC the appointment of a chairperson and vice-chairperson is to be the first business transacted, and the council member for Carmarthenshire County Council must chair the meeting until the chairperson is appointed (and the chairperson is to chair the remainder of the meeting).
3. At each annual general meeting of the CJC the continuing appointment of the chair and vice-chair must be confirmed, or a new chair, vice-chair, or both must be appointed.
4. The chair and vice-chair must be appointed from among the members of the CJC from the constituent councils – for the avoidance of doubt the National Park Authorities shall not be entitled to be voted in as chair or vice-chair.

5. The chair and vice-chair must be appointed or confirmed by the CJC members and any other members entitled to vote on the matter.
6. A person appointed as chair or vice-chair may at any time resign that office by notice in writing given to the other members.
7. If a vacancy arises in the office of chair or vice-chair, an appointment to fill the vacancy must be made at the first meeting of the CJC held after the vacancy has arisen.
8. If the office of chair is vacant, the vice-chair may carry out the functions of chair until the vacancy is filled.
9. Where the offices of both chair and vice-chair are simultaneously vacant, a meeting of the CJC must be chaired, until one of the vacancies is filled, by the council member for Carmarthenshire County Council.
10. Members should note that the Chair does not have a casting vote other than in respect of strategic planning.

Financial Impacts:

11. There are no financial impacts associated with this report

Integrated Impact Assessment:

12. The CJC is subject to the Equality Act (Public Sector Equality Duty and the socio-economic duty), the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure, and must in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:
 - Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Acts.
 - Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - Deliver better outcomes for those people who experience socio-economic disadvantage
 - Consider opportunities for people to use the Welsh language
 - Treat the Welsh language no less favourably than English.
 - Ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

13. The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 mandates that public bodies in Wales must carry out sustainable development. Sustainable development means the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the 'well-being goals'.
14. There is no requirement for an Integrated Impact Assessment for this report as the setting up of the CJC is underpinned by legislation and that this report is to establish governance arrangements in accordance with legislation. This will be kept under review with any future reports considering whether impacts require consideration.

Workforce Impacts:

15. There are no workforce impacts associated with this report.

Legal Impacts:

16. Part 5 of the LGE Act provides for the establishment, through regulations, of CJCs and compliance will be had with this and other legislative obligations in the establishment of CJCs. In particular the South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee Regulations came into force on 1st April 2021 and set out an initial framework for example, that the CJC should be established and the timeframes for the discharging of specific functions. However, a series of further Regulations are being drafted and consulted on by Welsh Government. The Welsh Government has concluded its consultation on the Corporate Joint Committees (General) (No.2) (Wales) Regulations 2021. The Welsh Government is also currently consulting on draft statutory guidance. A third stage of Regulations will put in place further legislation for the operation of the CJCs and its functions, which Welsh Government are currently consulting on. A fourth stage will put in place any remaining provisions that a CJC might need.

Risk Management Impacts:

17. Without appointing an appropriate chairperson, meetings of the CJC would not be able to be held.

Consultation:

18. There is no requirement for public consultation in respect of this report.

Reasons for Proposed Decision:

19. To ensure appropriate governance arrangements are in place for the CJC

Implementation of Decision:

20. This decision is proposed for immediate implementation

Appendices:

21. None

List of Background Papers:

22. None