



## Proposed Update to Partnership Standing Orders

**Date of meeting** 16 December 2022

**Date of report** 21 November 2022

### Report by Chief Executive / Partnership Secretary

#### 1. Object of report

To recommend to the Partnership an amendment to the Partnership Standing Orders that embraces consideration of gender when making appointment to the roles of Partnership office bearers.

#### 2. Background

SPT Partnership Board is constituted by 20 elected members from 12 Council areas and between 7 and 9 appointed members. When recruiting appointed members, SPT must give consideration to the gender balance in line with the legislation. However, nominations from each council are a reflection of the democratic election process and SPT has no influence over who each council nominates to SPT.

At the Partnership meeting of 24 June 2022, a request was made to consider how the Partnership Standing Orders could be amended to support gender balance in the appointment of Partnership office bearers.

#### 3. Proposal

Notwithstanding that SPT cannot influence or determine the gender representation following an election of those nominated to SPT, it is proposed to amend Paragraph 2.5.1 of the Partnership Standing Orders "Appointment of Chairperson and Deputy Chairpersons" to read as follows:

*"The Partnership shall, mindful of the political, gender and geographic diversity of its membership, appoint a Chairperson and such number of Deputy Chairpersons as it considers appropriate from amongst its members and subject to Standing Order 2.5.2, the Chairperson and Deputy Chairpersons shall each hold office for a maximum period of five years, or for the period between elections, whichever is greater."*

Given that SPT has no direct influence over the outcome of a democratic election and the subsequent nominations to its Partnership Board following an election or indeed, during a Partnership term when Council nominations often change, it is not practical to predetermine any particular gender balance, which also must take account of political and geographic balances. This is clearly different to the arrangements in place for recruitment of appointed members.

#### 4. Partnership action

The Partnership is recommended to approve the amendment to Paragraph 2.5.1 of the Partnership Standing Orders as outlined and, should this be proposed and seconded, note

that in accordance with Paragraph 9 the amendment will stand adjourned without discussion to the next meeting of the Partnership.

## 5. Consequences

Policy consequences	<i>None directly.</i>
Legal consequences	<i>None directly.</i>
Financial consequences	<i>None directly.</i>
Personnel consequences	<i>None directly.</i>
Equalities consequences	<i>None directly.</i>
Risk consequences	<i>None directly.</i>
Climate Change, Adaptation & Carbon consequences	<i>None directly.</i>

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**Name** Valerie Davidson  
**Title** **Chief Executive/Partnership Secretary**

*For more information on this report please contact Valerie Davidson, Partnership Secretary, on 0141 333 3298.*