

**REPORT TO: CITY COUNCIL**  
**REPORT ON: APPOINTMENT OF BAILIES**  
**REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE**  
**REPORT NO 468-2003**

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To facilitate consideration of a proposal to appoint Bailies.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

2.1 That the historic title of Bailie be resurrected.

2.2 That the role be limited to that of assisting the Lord Provost in civic duties and civic events as and when the Lord Provost deems it necessary.

2.3 That based on length of service and seniority, 6 Bailies be appointed, one of whom should be the holder of the position of Depute Lord Provost.

2.4 That the Bailies' chains held by the Leisure and Arts Department be restored to use as chains of office to be worn by those appointed as Bailies.

## **3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 There are no immediate financial implications other than possible insurance costs, which will be met from within existing budgets.

## **4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 None.

## **5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 None.

## **6.0 BACKGROUND**

6.1 Over recent years, the Council has been involved in the provision of civic hospitality/recognition of local groups and visiting conferences and dignitaries. Due in part to the success the City has had in attracting conferences and in part to the high levels of activity and success on the part of local groups and clubs, the number of these events has been increasing.

It is, therefore, suggested that it might be helpful to designate several Members who could assist in dealing with the workload involved in welcoming and giving recognition to these groups.

Glasgow City Council and Aberdeen City Council have recently appointed Elected Members to similar positions and have called them 'Bailies'.

The Concise Scots Dictionary defines the word 'Bailie' as follows:- "a town magistrate next in rank to the Provost, since 1975 used only as a courtesy title by certain local authorities". This is because the office and duties of the Bailie were abolished by law in 1975. There would be no objection, however, to the use of the word 'Bailie' purely as a courtesy title for those Members of the Council who are asked by the Lord Provost to assist him by welcoming visitors and dignitaries to the City and generally maintaining the dignity of the City.

It would be for the Lord Provost to decide when and in what circumstances he called upon any, or all, of the Bailies for assistance. The Council still holds five Bailies' Chains of Office which could be worn by the Bailies when supporting the Lord Provost. There is of course already a chain of office for the Depute Lord Provost and therefore logic suggests the Council could appoint 6 Bailies including whoever is the holder at any time of the office of Depute Lord Provost. Prior to 1975 those appointed were senior Members either in terms of length of service of office or position in the Council.

- 6.2 In appointing members to hold these honorary titles, it is suggested that the term of office should be for the four year term of the Council and that fresh appointments be made following each four yearly election of the full Council.
- 6.3 The Chains would be worn on such occasions as the Kirkin of the Council, the Remembrance Day Service, the Feast of Christ the King, any formal occasion when the Baillie is representing the Lord Provost and any other event which the Lord Provost deems appropriate and for which he grants his approval.
- 6.4 Taking account of such matters as length of service, seniority and experience, and including, so far as practicable, eligible members from across the Council, it is suggested that the following members be appointed as Bailies:-

	<u>First Elected</u>	<u>Service</u>
Councillor Borthwick	1963	40 Years
Depute Lord Provost Farquhar	1965	38 Years
Councillor Mackie	1966	37 Years
Councillor Powrie	1979	24 Years
Councillor Wright	1980	23 Years
Councillor Corrigan	1988	15 Years

## **7.0 CONSULTATION**

- 7.1 The Director of Support Services and Director of Finance have been consulted on this report.

## **8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 8.1 None.

ALEX STEPHEN  
Chief Executive