

## Minutes of the APSE Northern Ireland Annual General Meeting 2023

Tuesday 6 June 2023 12.40 – 13.00, held in Antrim

1. A welcome to the meeting was provided by Cllr Terry Andrews of Newry, Morne and Down Council before handing the first item of business to Mo Baines, APSE Chief Executive. Cllr Andrews thanked the meeting for their attendance and paid tribute to his predecessor Ald. Nicholl for his services to APSE.
2. The first item of business being the nomination of the APSE Northern Ireland Chair for 2023-2025, a biennial election in line with APSE Northern Ireland Constitution, received a nomination from Cllr Beth Adger of Mid and East Antrim, which was duly seconded by Ald. Alan McDowell of Ards and North Down, for Cllr Terry Andrews of Newry Morne and Down Council. On being put to the meeting and there being no further nominations **Cllr Andrews was duly ELECTED as APSE Northern Ireland Chair.**
3. The second item of business being the nomination of the APSE Northern Ireland Vice Chair for 2023-2025, received a nomination from Cllr Terry Andrews of Newry Morne and Down Council, which was duly seconded by Cllr Beth Adger, of Mid and East Antrim, for Ald. Alan McDowell of Ards and North Down Council, on being put to the meeting and there being no further nominations **Ald. Alan McDowell was duly ELECTED as APSE Northern Ireland Vice Chair.**
4. Apologies for absence have been noted by the APSE Secretariat and received from Ellen Cavanagh and Cllr Martin Reilly of Derry City and Strabane Council.
5. Minutes of APSE Northern Ireland AGM 2022 were **AGREED** as a correct record.
6. A matter arising was brought to the attention of the meeting to ask that the renomination of the APSE National Chair, which falls to Northern Ireland for the period of June 2023 to September 2023, be considered following the retirement of Ald. Tommy Nicholl, Mid and East Antrim council. It was noted that a report to APSE National Council in March 2023 had confirmed that the renomination of the National Chair for the remaining term of office to September 2023 falls to APSE Northern Ireland's AGM; that further to this matter Mid and East Antrim, the member council of the former chair, Ald. Nicholl, had confirmed that Cllr Beth Adger, was their new nominee; and that Cllr Adger had been nominated by Cllr Terry Andrews and seconded by Ald. Alan McDowell to be the APSE National Chair, in line with the APSE National Constitution, which places the nomination of National Chairs within APSE areas on a rotating basis.

On being put to the meeting it was unanimously **AGREED** that **Cllr Beth Adger, be the APSE Northern Ireland elected nominee for APSE National Chair** for the remaining term of office to September 2023.

7. Given the changes to the APSE Northern Ireland Chair's position over the course of the last few months, Mo Baines, APSE's Chief Executive provided a summary update on the work of APSE Northern Ireland, noting the membership had valued contributions to both in-person and online events including digitalisation of frontline services, climate change and ecological, performance management and energy and renewables; attendance at the NILGA conference in February and ongoing work with the APSE research programme.
8. The following nominations for APSE positions were agreed by the AGM:-
  - I. APSE Northern Ireland Secretary for 2023/2025 – **Ellen Cavanagh of Derry City and Strabane Council**
  - II. National Council NI Representatives – in accordance with the APSE NI Constitution this will be the:-
    - Chair- **Cllr Terry Andrews , Newry Morne and Down**
    - Vice Chair – **Ald. Alan McDowell, Ards and North Down**
    - Secretary – **Ellen Cavanagh, Derry City and Strabane**
  - III. APSE Northern Ireland Additional National Council Representative-**Cllr Martin Reilly, Derry City and Strabane ELECTED**
  - IV. APSE Northern Ireland Additional National Council Representative – **Cllr Beth Adger. Mid and Eats Antrim – ELECTED**
  - V. APSE Northern Ireland first substitute National Council Representative - **Cllr Stephen McCann- Fermanagh and Omagh - ELECTED**
  - VI. APSE Northern Ireland second substitute representative –As this position was left vacant it was **AGREED** that the vacancy circulated to the main contacts to request and officer substitute member

It was noted that whilst the APSE advisory groups and strategic forums are the property of the APSE Annual General Meeting Northern Ireland currently holds two positions and the meeting was asked to confirm its support to nominate representatives to two groups to go forward to the APSE Annual General Meeting 2023. The meeting **AGREED** the following nominations:-:

- VII. Advisory Group Chair: (Currently Refuse, Waste, and Street Scene Services) **Cllr Martin Reilly, Derry City and Strabane.**
- VIII. Strategic Forum Chair: (Currently Property, asset management and regeneration) **Ald. Alan McDowell, Ards and North Down**

9. Mo Baines, APSE Chief Executive, presented a Finance Report to the meeting confirming that the ongoing support from the APSE membership retention fund which has allowed the continuation of support to APSE Northern Ireland, in providing a programme of free events to APSE member councils. There were no questions raised to the Finance Report and on being put to the meeting the report was **AGREED.**

10. Whilst a full Annual Report of the Association will be presented to the APSE AGM in September, which this year will be held in Belfast, Mo Baines, presented a brief update to confirm that the Association had undergone a number of recent changes, including a new APSE Chief Executive, a new Establishment Structure, and ongoing governance review and the successful implementation of a new ESG ( Environmental Social and Governance ) framework to reflect the direction of travel amongst APSE Member Councils. All member councils were encouraged to attend the APSE AGM in Belfast in September, to showcase the innovation within Northern Ireland Local Government.
11. There being no proposed changes to NI Constitution or motions received, and no further competent business to deal with the meeting closed with a thank you to delegates provided by Cllr Terry Andrews, APSE Northern Ireland Chair and a brief address from Cllr Beth Adger to thank the meeting for her ratification as the new APSE National Chair and she paid tribute to her friend and predecessor Ald. Tommy Nicholl for his guidance and support and for leaving the Association in good health.

**The meeting closed at 13.00**