

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL10 SEPTEMBER 2025Report by Director of Business Operations and PartnershipsPOLITICAL MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS: CHANGES TO CABINET, CONVENER REMITS, COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AND APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. To seek Council approval for changes to Cabinet membership, Convener remits, committee appointments and representation on outside bodies following the Ward 1: Barrhead, Liboside and Uplawmoor By-election held on Thursday 21 August 2025.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. It is recommended that Council approve:
- a) the appointment of Councillor McHale as a fifth member of Cabinet;
 - b) the establishment of a new Convenership for Communities, Equalities and Culture & Leisure, and the revised remits for the Leader of the Council and Conveners (Appendix 2);
 - c) the replacement of Councillor Devlin with Councillor McHale on the Education Committee;
 - d) the replacement of Councillor O'Donnell with Councillor McHale on the East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure Trust Board; and
 - e) the replacement of Councillor O'Donnell with Councillor Anderson on the Strathclyde Passenger Transport (SPT) Board.

BACKGROUND

2. Following the Scottish Local Government Elections in May 2022, the Council agreed its political management structure, including Cabinet composition, Convener remits and appointments to outside bodies.

3. Following the recent Ward 1 By-election, a number of changes are proposed to the political management arrangements as set out below.

REPORT***Cabinet Membership***

4. The Council's Scheme of Administration allows the appointment of up to six Elected Members to the Cabinet. Currently there are four Elected Members who serve on the Cabinet, the Leader of the Council and three Conveners.

5. It is proposed that Councillor McHale be appointed as the fifth member of the Cabinet.

Convener Remits

6. The current remits for the Leader of the Council and Conveners, agreed by Council in September 2022, are attached at Appendix 1.

7. It is proposed to establish a new Convenership: Communities, Equalities and Culture & Leisure, to be held by Councillor McHale. This would involve the transfer of relevant responsibilities from both the Leader of the Council and the current Convener of Education, Equalities and Culture & Leisure, who would assume the revised title of Convener for Education. Revised remits for the Leader of the Council and Conveners are attached at Appendix 2.

Committee Membership

8. It is proposed that Councillor McHale replace Councillor Danny Devlin on the Education Committee.

9. Elected Members should note that a separate report which addresses appointments to the Planning Applications Committee / Local Review Body is on the agenda for the Council meeting.

Appointments to Outside Bodies

10. The Council appoints representatives to a range of external bodies, boards, trusts and joint committees. These appointments can be reviewed or revised as required throughout the term of the Administration.

11. It is proposed that Councillor McHale be appointed to replace Councillor O'Donnell as the Council's representative on the East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure Trust Board. Additionally, it is proposed that Councillor Anderson replace Councillor O'Donnell as the Council's representative on the Strathclyde Passenger Transport (SPT) Board.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

13. The Council, at its meeting in April 2025, noted the Scheme for Members' Remuneration and Expenses 2025/26, which sets out levels of remuneration in terms of the Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration) Amendment Regulations 2025.

14. The Regulations permit the designation of up to 10 Senior Councillors (excluding the Leader and Civic Head). The Council currently has seven Senior Councillors.

15. The appointment of a fifth Cabinet Member would result in Councillor McHale being designated a Senior Councillor, with an annual remuneration of £37,548. This cost will be met from existing budgets.

CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING

16. Consultation has taken place with the Leader of the Council and affected Elected Members, the Chief Executive and Chief Legal Officer (Monitoring Officer).

RECOMMENDATIONS

17. It is recommended that Council approve:

- a) the appointment of Councillor Julie Ann McHale as a fifth member of Cabinet;
- b) the establishment of a new Convenership for Communities, Equalities and Culture & Leisure, and the revised remits for the Leader of the Council and Conveners (Appendix 2);
- c) the replacement of Councillor Devlin with Councillor McHale on the Education Committee;
- d) the replacement of Councillor O'Donnell with Councillor McHale on the East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure Trust Board; and
- e) the replacement of Councillor O'Donnell with Councillor Anderson on the Strathclyde Passenger Transport (SPT) Board.

LOUISE PRINGLE

DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS OPERATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

Background Papers:

[East Renfrewshire Council Scheme of Administration](#)

[Scheme for Members' Remuneration and Expenses 2025/26](#)

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LEADER AND CONVENERS' REMITS

<p><u>Councillor Owen O'Donnell</u> <u>Leader of the Council</u></p>	<p>Chair of the Cabinet;</p> <p>Overall strategy development including community planning, long term strategic financial, capital and asset planning, local development plan preparation, net zero strategy, and digital transformation;</p> <p>Partnership development with the voluntary sector, Community Councils, Police, Fire, City region and COSLA</p> <p>Delivery of major projects such as City Deal and levelling up;</p> <p>Governance and support functions including accountancy, legal, licensing, audit, procurement, HR (including Industrial relations), Payroll, ICT, Communications, Accounts Payable/Receivable, Civil Contingencies, Health and Safety;</p> <p>Shared customer services - Customer First (including money advice and rights (MART) and registrations); community safety; (including out of hours emergency customer services; CCTV; telecare alarms response; community wardens); council tax & non-domestic rates collection, benefits administration and welfare;</p> <p>Member and Committee services;</p> <p>Community Learning and Development</p>
<p><u>Councillor Andrew Anderson</u> <u>Convener for Education, Equalities, Culture and Leisure</u></p>	<p>Pre-school nurseries and family centres</p> <p>Primary education</p> <p>Special needs provision</p> <p>Secondary education</p> <p>All education related policy matters</p> <p>Catering and cleaning</p> <p>Culture and leisure – including active schools, the ER Culture and Leisure Trust</p> <p>Equalities</p>

<p><u>Councillor Katie Pragnell</u> <u>Convener for Health and Social Care</u></p>	<p>Social Care - older peoples services, learning disability, mental health, children and families, criminal justice;</p> <p>Health – NHS GGC Board member, chair or vice chair of the IJB.</p>
<p><u>Councillor Danny Devlin</u> <u>Convener for Environment and Housing</u></p>	<p>Major infrastructure planning and development – Transport (including roads, pavements and lighting), planning and building standards services;</p> <p>Neighbourhood Services – refuse collection, recycling and disposal, parks, cemeteries, environmental health, trading standards, vehicle maintenance;</p> <p>Economic Development including Business Gateway, employability and town centre generation;</p> <p>Housing including Council Housing (management, maintenance and development of council housing stock through the housing revenue and housing capital accounts), homelessness and private sector housing, including Local Housing Strategy;</p> <p>Property and technical services (Maintenance and repair of council owned property such as schools and offices).</p>

Revised Leader and Conveners Remits

August 2025



Role	Remit
Councillor Owen O'Donnell Leader of the Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair of the Cabinet. • Overall strategy development including community planning, long term strategic financial, capital and asset planning, local development plan preparation, net zero strategy, and digital transformation. • Partnership development with Police, Fire, City Region and COSLA. • Delivery of major projects such as City Deal and levelling up. • Governance and support functions including accountancy, legal, licensing, audit, procurement, HR (including Industrial relations), Payroll, ICT, Communications, Accounts Payable/Receivable, Civil Contingencies, Health and Safety. • Community safety (including out of hours emergency customer services; CCTV; telecare alarms response; community wardens). • Council tax & non-domestic rates collection, benefits administration and welfare. • Democratic Services.
Councillor Andrew Anderson Deputy Leader of the Council / Convener for Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-school nurseries and family centres. • Primary education. • Special needs provision. • Secondary education. • All education related policy matters. • Catering and cleaning.

Role	Remit
Councillor Katie Pragnell Convener for Health and Social Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Care - older peoples' services, learning disability, mental health, children and families, criminal justice. • Health – NHS GGC Board member, chair or vice chair of the IJB.
Councillor Danny Devlin Convener for Environment and Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major infrastructure planning and development – Transport (including roads, pavements and lighting), planning and building standards services. • Neighbourhood Services – refuse collection, recycling and disposal, parks, cemeteries, environmental health, trading standards, vehicle maintenance. • Economic Development including Business Gateway, employability and town centre regeneration. • Housing including Council Housing (management, maintenance and development of council housing stock through the housing revenue and housing capital accounts), homelessness and private sector housing, including Local Housing Strategy. • Property and technical services (Maintenance and repair of council owned property such as schools and offices).
Councillor Julie Ann McHale Convener for Communities, Equalities & Culture and Leisure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership development with the voluntary sector and Community Councils. • Customer First (including money advice and rights (MART) and registrations). • Community Learning and Development. • Culture and leisure – including active schools, the East Renfrewshire Culture and Leisure Trust. • Equalities.

