

REPORT

To: GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE	Subject: APPOINTMENTS TO PRISON VISITING COMMITTEES
From: DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION	
Date: 29 May 2003	Ref: JAF/IL

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The report submits for the consideration of the Committee recommendations with regard to appointments to Prison Visiting Committees.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Council is responsible for the appointment of members to Shotts, Barlinnie and Low Moss Prison Visiting Committees as follows:

- Shotts – 9 members of whom 3 or more must not be elected members of the Council
- Barlinnie – 4 of whom 2 or more must not be elected members of the Council
- Low Moss – 3 of whom 1 or more must not be elected members of the Council.

- 2.2 The Council, at its meeting on 17 December 1998, agreed to procedures for recruiting and appointing prison visitors. Those procedures, which include a process of advertisement and interview, were noted and adjusted following consideration by the Committee at its meeting on 20 January 1999.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 With regard to the elected members of the Council, it is proposed that these appointments be considered by the Council at its next meeting.
- 3.2 With regard to the appointment of non Council members, it is proposed that, prior to advertisement, it be ascertained if persons currently appointed to the Prison Visiting Committees are willing to continue to serve and, if so, that their reappointment be recommended to the Council. In the event that any one or more does not wish to continue to serve, it is proposed to insert a feature in the North Lanarkshire News publicising the role of prison visitors and inviting individuals interested in becoming prison visitors to contact the Council for an information pack and application and, thereafter, to proceed with the process of interview with a view to recommending appointment.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 It is recommended that the Committee give consideration to the foregoing proposal.


Director of Administration

Members seeking further information on the contents of this report are asked to contact John Fleming, Head of Central Services on Extension 2228.