## **Business Bulletin**

## **Policy and Sustainability Committee**

10.00am, Thursday 17th November 2022

Dean of Guild Court Room, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh



## **Policy and Sustainability Committee**

**Recent News** Background **Barriers to Elected Office – Motion by Councillor Main** Contact: Chris Highcock As noted previously, there is no collection of Elections and Members demographic/diversity data at the nomination of candidates Services Manager for local government elections in Scotland, so no data is held that would allow "a breakdown of the numbers of Corporate Services candidates by gender and by underrepresented groups". With respect to elected members a survey is in preparation to allow such a breakdown for councillors. The design and testing of this survey is taking longer than anticipated, but results will be reported to Committee in the next cycle. There has been engagement with COSLA with respect to initiatives to address barriers to participation. Exit interviews with councillors who have recently demitted office have also been undertaken. The results of this work may suggest other areas that could be addressed to increase the diversity of the councillor group, although political parties also have a responsibility in their selection of candidates. Forthcoming activities: