

12th February 2021

Members Reappointed to Highland NHS Board

The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport, Jeane Freeman MSP today announced the reappointments of Alasdair Christie and Sarah Compton-Bishop as Members of Highland NHS Board.

MEMBERS

Alasdair Christie has worked at a senior level of management for over 30 years, in the mechanical engineering industry and as the General Manager of a large Highland Charity. In addition, as a local councillor in Inverness he has many years of experience dealing with some of the issues facing local people including the complexities of delivering services across Highland.

Alasdair is Deputy Leader of the Highland Council and formerly Chair of the Committee which oversees Education, Social Work and Housing which enables a keen insight into linking up the needs of communities with the provision of health services. He is currently general manager of the Inverness Badenoch and Strathspey Citizens Advice Bureau and is well aware of the impact that poverty, disability, unemployment and debt has on mental health and how charities and communities can play a big part in the provision of services.

Sarah Compton-Bishop is an experienced Project Manager who has delivered a range of initiatives across private, public and third sector organisations. With a strong background in community led development in remote areas, Sarah has a keen interest in the health and wellbeing of rural communities.

Sarah also brings to her role many years' experience in people management, external communications and project design and is passionate about finding creative and innovative solutions to the challenges we all face today.

REAPPOINTMENTS

The reappointments will be for four years and will run from 28th November 2021 to 27th November 2025.

The reappointments are regulated by the Ethical Standards Commissioner.

REMUNERATION

The reappointments are part-time and attract a remuneration of £8,842 per annum for a time commitment of one day per week.

OTHER MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS

Alasdair Christie and Sarah Compton-Bishop do not hold any other ministerial public appointments.

POLITICAL ACTIVITY

All appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process. However, in accordance with the original Nolan recommendations, there is a requirement for appointees' political activity within the last five years (if there is any to be declared) to be made public.

Alasdair Christie was elected to the Highland Council in May 2017 as a Liberal Democrat Councillor.

Sarah Compton-Bishop has had no political activity within the last five years.

BACKGROUND

NHS Highland's catchment area comprises the largest and most sparsely populated part of the UK. It is responsible for meeting the health needs of around 320,000 people living in the area, and provides a comprehensive range of primary, community-based and acute hospital services for the population.