Edinburgh council's Chief Executive appointed to board of SSE

Sue Bruce, the Council's Chief Executive, has been appointed a non-Executive Director of Scottish and Southern Energy plc, with effect from 1 September 2013.

Sue has requested of SSE that all non-Executive Director's fees due to her while she is an employee of the City of Edinburgh Council be given to charitable concerns that operate in or benefit the city of Edinburgh, beyond any amount required to fulfil her obligation as a Board member to purchase shares in the company.

Lord Smith of Kelvin, Chairman of SSE, said:- "I am absolutely delighted that Sue Bruce is joining SSE's Board. It is often said that the public sector has much to learn from business. I believe the same is true in reverse and that Sue's experience and knowledge of the public sector will be invaluable.

"More generally, her outstanding track record as the head of an organisation that provides services on which hundreds of thousands of people depend and also makes significant capital investments means she is very well-qualified to serve on the Board of a company like SSE."

Sue Bruce said:- "It's a privilege to have been offered this opportunity to join the Board of SSE, one of Scotland's most successful companies. I'm looking forward to contributing to the critical service that SSE provides for customers, the environment and the wider economy.

"I do, however, also see this as a mutually beneficial arrangement and a natural extension of the partnership approach that the Council already has with many companies.

There is much from my experience that I hope to bring to the Board, but the Council's services can equally benefit through sharing the good practices of the private sector."

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Council Leader -Andrew Burns

Councillor Andrew Burns, Council Leader, added:- "I'm really pleased about this for two main reasons. The first is the personal endorsement for Sue's abilities, as well as the efforts she has made to engage with the business sector in Edinburgh and further afield, which is so important for many areas of the Council's responsibilities. The second is that it's a recognition that public sector leaders can have a great deal of experience, knowledge and expertise to offer organisations in the private sector. I'm sure SSE will soon see the benefit of her contribution and that the Council will equally gain from the perspective she will bring from her participation on the board."

"Sue asked me before accepting if I was able to give my support to her taking the appointment. As I have no doubts at all about Sue's commitment to the Council and how hard she works I was happy to give her my backing."