



16 March 2026

Dear colleague

### **Appointment of Members of the Board of South of Scotland Enterprise**

I am writing to let you know that the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic is looking to appoint up to three new members to the Board of South of Scotland Enterprise (SOSE). The appointments are for up to four years and will take effect from 1 August 2026. This is an exciting opportunity for anyone who would like to make a real difference in the South of Scotland by being part of something special.

South of Scotland Enterprise – or SOSE for short - was launched on 1 April 2020 and was set up to bring a fresh and regionally focussed approach to economic and community development in and for the South of Scotland and to deliver it in a different way. As the economic and community development agency for Dumfries and Galloway and the Scottish Borders we aim to be bold, different, and ambitious, and our focus as a public body is to help people, communities, and enterprises in the South of Scotland to thrive, grow and fulfil their potential.

We have said from the very beginning we would listen first, be bold, different and ambitious and as Chair of the SOSE Board, I am incredibly proud of what we have accomplished so far in our first five years. From COVID-19 support to the creation and safeguarding of over 10,000 jobs to the development of entrepreneurship and innovation and over 400% increase in inward investment enquiries – the impact we've had in five years has been significant. However, there is still much more to do. More details on what we achieved in our first five years is available by clicking [here](#).

Our Board members play a vital role in the governance of SOSE, setting the strategic direction across all we do, making bold and sometimes difficult decisions, considering the legislation and wider policy direction set by the Scottish Government.

On this occasion, we are keen to hear from those with knowledge and experience in one of three particular areas - renewables; energy; net zero; financial acumen; and communities/community wealth building. Those interested would also be expected to demonstrate a number of more generic board skills - the ability to think

strategically about the issues impacting SOSE; the ability to communicate succinctly and influence effectively; the ability to work co-operatively and collaboratively; and the ability to explore innovative and creative solutions to problem solving.

We are particularly keen to ensure that our Board is reflective of everyone in the region, so it is important to us that it is made up of diverse individuals, bringing with them the largest possible range of life experiences and perspectives. As such, we would particularly welcome applications from women, disabled people, LGBTQ+ people, people from ethnic minority communities and those aged under 50.

I would very much appreciate your support in publicising these appointments and circulating information through your networks and to those you consider may be interested applying for these roles. The information in the Applicant Information Pack will hopefully, answer any questions about SOSE and the board member roles. This can be downloaded from [www.jobs.gov.scot/public-appointments](http://www.jobs.gov.scot/public-appointments). The closing date for applications is **5.00 pm on Monday, 4 May 2026**.

Those who are interested in the appointment, or those who may have questions about the role, should contact Susan Cannon, Corporate Governance Lead, South of Scotland Enterprise on 01750 535917 or at [susan.cannon@sose.scot](mailto:susan.cannon@sose.scot).

More information about SOSE can be found at [www.southofscotlandenterprise.com](http://www.southofscotlandenterprise.com). The SOSE [Action Plan](#) can be found here.

Yours sincerely

**Russel Griggs OBE**  
Chair of the Board