

Report of the Chief Executive

## **Appointment of co-opted members**

### **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 Members will be aware that its previous endorsements for the appointment of co-opted representatives to the board were approved by Council on November 22. Gill Butler and Chris Hulse (parent governors), Ruth Richardson (other faiths) and Chris Reynolds (Catholic) will therefore commence their four-year terms on 1 January 2018.
- 1.2 Since the meeting of Council, the Bishop of Derby, as Chair of the Derby Diocesan Board of Education (Church of England), has nominated the Revd Nicky Fenton as the Church of England representative.
- 1.3 As there is no Council meeting prior to the start date of 1 January 2018, it is recommended that the board agree to the Chief Executive's powers being utilised to approve the appointment.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 To note the confirmation of the appointments endorsed by the board at its previous meeting.
- 2.2 To note and endorse the additional nomination of the Revd Nicky Fenton to the board as Church of England representative.
- 2.3 To agree that the Chief Executive's powers be utilised, in the absence of a scheduled meeting of Council, in order to approve the appointment with effect from 1 January 2018.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 To finalise the appointments of statutory co-opted representatives to the board.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **Background**

- 4.1 There is provision for up to eight co-opted members to be appointed to the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Board to partake in discussion on education matters. Three are directly nominated faith representatives (categorised as Church of England, Catholic and other faiths), while between two and five parent governors can also be appointed.
- 4.2 This provision originates from requirements for the inclusion of representatives specifically mentioned in Section 499 of the Education Act 1996, which also applies to overview and scrutiny committees by virtue of Schedule 1 of the Local Government Act 2000.
- 4.3 The terms of office for the council's current co-opted members to the board expire on 31 December 2017.

### **Conditions of appointment**

- 4.4 Co-opted appointees to the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Board must consent to abide by the Members' Code of Conduct.
- 4.5 Co-opted appointees have the same entitlement to contribute to debates on education matters before the scrutiny board as do elected members, although this privilege does not extend to non-education matters within the board's terms of reference.
- 4.6 Terms of office will last for four years from 1 January 2018 unless a change in circumstances results in the appointed individuals ceasing to qualify.

### **Appointments process**

- 4.7 The Bishop of Derby, as Chair of the Derby Diocesan Board of Education (Church of England), the Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Education Service and the Multi-Faith Centre were directly approached to make nominations to the three directly nominated faith categories.
- 4.8 A letter was sent to all parent governors via the council's Governor Support team inviting nominations.
- 4.9 Representations to all categories other than the Church of England were endorsed by the board at its meeting on 30 October, and approved by Council on 22 November.

### **Church of England nomination**

- 4.10 On 5 December 2017, the Bishop of Derby nominated the Revd Nicky Fenton to be the Church of England representative. Nicky is the diocese's school missionary and an Assistant Chaplain to the Bishop. In addition, she is priest in charge in three parishes just outside the city.

#### **Proposed appointment process**

- 4.11 In order that all appointments are in place by 1 January, and in the absence of a Council meeting prior to that for the appointment to be formally approved, it is recommended that the Chief Executive's powers to take decisions on behalf of Council be utilised.
- 4.12 If members agree to this, Group Leaders will be consulted on the decision prior to it being taken. Any decision will then be reported to Council for information at the meeting on 24 January.

#### **OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 5.1 If members opt not to endorse the use of the Chief Executive's powers to confirm the appointment, the position will remain vacant until the Council meeting on 24 January 2018. While there are no further meetings of the board scheduled during that period, this option is not recommended as Section 499 of the Education Act 1996 (in the context of Schedule 1 of the Local Government Act 2000) requires appointments to be in place.

**For more information contact:**  
**Background papers:**  
**List of appendices:**

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None  
Appendix 1 – Implications

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| <b>IMPLICATIONS</b> |
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**Financial and Value for Money**

1.1 None.

**Legal**

2.1 Co-option of members to the board for consideration of education matters is in accordance with the provisions of the Section 499 of the Education Act 1996, which also applies to overview and scrutiny committees by virtue of Schedule 1 of the Local Government Act 2000.

**Personnel**

3.1 None.

**IT**

4.1 None.

**Equalities Impact**

5.1 None.

**Health and Safety**

6.1 None.

**Environmental Sustainability**

7.1 None.

**Property and Asset Management**

8.1 None.

**Risk Management and Safeguarding**

9.1 None.

**Corporate objectives and priorities for change**

10.1 Ensuring up-to-date co-opted appointments on the Children and Young People Board, or any successor body, will result in better engagement with relevant bodies and representatives on education matters.