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| CHILDREN AND EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE | AGENDA ITEM No. 5 |
| 15 JULY 2021 | PUBLIC REPORT |

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| Report of: | Fiona McMillan, Director of Law and Governance | |
| Cabinet Member(s) responsible: | Councillor Cereste, Cabinet Member for Digital Services and Transformation | |
| Contact Officer(s): | Paulina Ford, Senior Democratic Services Officer | Tel. Insert contact number |

APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED MEMBERS

| RECOMMENDATIONS | |
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| FROM: Director of Law and Governance | Deadline date: N/A |
| <p>It is recommended that the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Appoint Alistair Kingsley to the Committee as an Independent Co-opted Member with no voting rights for the municipal year 2021/2022. Appointment to be reviewed annually at the beginning of the next municipal year. 2. Appoint Sameena Aziz as a Co-opted Member with no voting rights to represent the Muslim Community for the municipal year 2021/2022. Appointment to be reviewed annually at the beginning of the next municipal year. 3. Appoint Mohammed Younis as a Co-opted Member with no voting rights to represent Early Years for the municipal year 2021/2022. Appointment to be reviewed annually at the beginning of the next municipal year. 4. Appoint Parish Councillor Judith Goode as a Co-opted Member with no voting rights to represent the rural area for the municipal year 2021/2022. Appointment to be reviewed annually at the beginning of the next municipal year. 5. Appoint Parish Councillor June Bull as the nominated substitute for Parish Councillor Judith Goode should she be appointed as the non-voting Co-opted Member representing the rural area. Appointment to be reviewed annually at the beginning of the next municipal year. | |

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 The report is presented to the Committee on behalf of the Director of Law and Governance

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

2.1 The purpose of this report is to request that the Committee appoint Alistair Kingsley, Sameena Aziz, Mohammed Younis and Parish Councillor Judith Goode as Non-Voting Co-opted Members for the municipal year 2021/22 to the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee in accordance with Part 3, Section 4 – Overview and Scrutiny Functions:

Paragraph 4.3 The Scrutiny Committees shall be entitled to co-opt, as non-voting members, up to four external representatives or otherwise invite participation from non-members where this is relevant to their work.

And Part 4, Section 8 – Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules: Paragraph 3 - CO-OPTED MEMBERS

3.1 As well as any statutory co-opted members, Scrutiny Committees can co-opt up to four non-voting members on to the Committee.

3.2 There must be at least one non-voting position reserved for a Parish Councillor from a rural area with one substitute member. The Parish Council Liaison Committee will decide these.

3.3 A Scrutiny Committee can co-opt a further three members at its discretion. One of these can be a second parish council member identified by the Parish Council Liaison Committee.

2.2 This report is for Children and Education Scrutiny Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference No. 4.3 of Part 3, Section 4 – Overview and Scrutiny Functions – Co-optees.

3. TIMESCALES

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| Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan? | NO | If yes, date for Cabinet meeting | N/A |
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4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

4.1 At the committee's annual work programming session held on 15 June 2021 Members discussed and reviewed the co-opted membership of the committee and requested that expressions of interest be sought from persons with knowledge and expertise in the following areas: Special Educational Needs, Early Years Settings and Higher Education.

Three expressions of interest were received and having reviewed the existing co-opted members and considering all three expressions of interest from persons with a Special Educational Needs background, an Early Years Settings background and a Higher Education background the Committee agreed that the following nominations be put forward as co-opted members for the 2021/2022 municipal year.

4.2 Independent Co-opted Members

4.2.1 Alistair Kingsley

Alistair Kingsley has been a Co-opted Member of this Committee since 22 April 2013 when the committee was formally called the Creating Opportunities and Tackling Inequalities Scrutiny Committee. Since his appointment Alistair has been an active and valuable member of the committee providing effective and challenging scrutiny at all meetings. He has also been a member of two Task and Finish Groups during his appointment. Since joining the committee as a Co-opted Member Alistair has joined the Boards / Governing Bodies of several educational establishments including:

- Chair of Hampton Academies Trust in Peterborough
- Chair of KWEST Academy Trust in Kings Lynn
- Chair of the Richard Barnes Academy in Peterborough (formerly the PRU), part of the TDET Academy Trust.
- Member of the Combined Authority Business Board (incl Education)
- Member of the Regional Schools Commissioners Head Teachers Board for the East of England and North London
- Independent Chair of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Joint SEND Executive board
- Independent Chair of the Combined Authority Employment & Skills board
- Chair of the Peterborough Governor Leadership Group
- Apprenticeship Ambassador for the East of England Apprenticeship Ambassador network.
- Member of the Foundation for Education Advisory Council

Alistair has expressed an interest in continuing as a Co-opted Member and committee members have also expressed an interest in retaining Alistair as a Co-opted Member.

It is therefore proposed that the Committee approve the appointment of Alistair Kingsley as an Independent Co-opted Member of the Committee for this municipal year.

4.2.2 **Mohammed Younis (Early Years Provider)**

Having reviewed all expressions of interest received the majority of members on the Committee felt that someone with an Early Years background would be an asset to the membership of the committee and provide that specialist knowledge of Early Years settings. The following is a brief overview of Mohammed Younis's background:

- Chair of the Local National Day Nurseries Association (NDNA) Group working since 2005 alongside other providers in Peterborough to champion causes in the Early Years sector.
- Joined the Early Years Local Authority Steering Group in 2006 and became a robust supporter of change in the allocation of government funding entitlement in Early Years.
- A provider of Outstanding Early Years Provision to over 1000 children per year, striving to ensure each setting is unique, by also providing before and after school clubs, holiday clubs, meeting individual needs with purpose built sensory provision, championing provision on school sites, promoting seamless transitions to Primary education.
- Provider of voluntary not-for-profit services through a community interest company championing families and children in the most disadvantaged areas of the city. Which aims to alleviate poverty, bridge gaps, develop cultural capital and provide sustainable childcare provision.

It is therefore proposed that the Committee approve the appointment of Mohammed Younis as a Co-opted Member representing Early Years of the Committee for this municipal year.

4.2.3 **Sameena Aziz - Muslim Community Representative**

At a meeting held on 5 January 2017 the Committee recommended that one of the four Co-opted Member vacancies should be reserved for a member of the Muslim community and that expressions of interest should be sought from either the Muslim Community, Racial Equality Council, SACRE or the Teachers Union.

The Committee received an expression of interest from Sameena Aziz who wished to put her name forward as a Co-opted Member to represent the Muslim Community. Sameena has over 20 years of experience in education across different key stages and disciplines, having retired four years ago as a Principal of a secondary school and having successfully managed several Ofsted inspections. Sameena is currently the Principal of the Educaxion Learning Hub, supporting learners in Mathematics, English, exam preparation skills, developing reasoning, problem solving and study skills. Sameena has worked with many community groups over the past fifteen years in Peterborough and is a founding member of the Muslim Council of Peterborough. Sameena is also an independent researcher.

Having reviewed the expression of interest received from Sameena the Committee agreed to put Sameena Aziz forward as the Co-opted Member to represent the Muslim Communities for this municipal year.

It is therefore proposed that the Committee approve the appointment of Sameena Aziz as a Co-opted Member of the Committee to represent the Muslim Community of Peterborough.

4.2.4 **Parish Councillor Judith Goode**

Each Scrutiny committee has the ability to co-opt up to four non-voting co-opted members one of which will be a Parish Councillor representing the rural area to ensure the voice of the rural communities are reflected.

Parish Councillor co-opted members are nominated through a process which is handled by the Think Communities Service area in People and Communities on behalf of the Parish Council Liaison Committee. This is done by sending out an advert and Terms of Reference for each Scrutiny Committee to all Parish Councils asking for expressions of interest for the position. Any expressions of interest received are assessed by the Chair of the Parish Council Liaison for experience and skills and why the candidate wishes to become a co-opted member of a particular scrutiny committee. The final nominations are then put forward to the relevant committee for approval. The Parish Council Liaison has therefore proposed that Parish Councillor Judith Goode be nominated to represent the rural area on the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee and that Parish Councillor June Bull be nominated as a substitute should the Committee decide to appoint Judith Goode as the substantive co-opted member.

It is therefore proposed that the Committee approve the appointment of Judith Goode as a Parish Councillor Co-opted Member of this committee to represent the rural area and consider the appointment of Parish Councillor June Bull as a substitute for Judith Goode for the municipal year 2021/22.

NEXT STEPS

If the Committee agree to appoint the above nominations as co-opted members of the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee from 15 July 2021, they will be able to attend and take part in all meetings of the Committee and any Task and Finish Groups that the Committee agree that they may be assigned to with no voting rights. If Parish Councillor June Bull is appointed as a substitute she may attend and take part in any meeting when asked to attend as a substitute for Parish Councillor Judith Goode.

5. CONSULTATION

5.1 None

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

6.1 The inclusion of Co-opted Members will allow the Committee a wider, more diverse input to discussion, drawing on the relevant expertise of the additional members.

7. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

7.1 The recommendations are made to assist the Scrutiny Committee in fulfilling the terms of reference as set out in the constitution Part 3, Section 4 – Overview and Scrutiny Functions:

4.3 The Scrutiny Committees shall be entitled to co-opt, as non-voting members, up to four external representatives or otherwise invite participation from non-members where this is relevant to their work

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8.1 N/A

9. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

9.1 Co-opted Members will receive a special responsibility allowance of £250 per annum as stated in the Members' Allowances Scheme.

Legal Implications

9.2 Due process has been followed with regards to the appointment of the Co-opted Members.

Equalities Implications

- 9.3 Members were keen to ensure that the Committee membership is as inclusive as possible.

Rural Implications

- 9.4 The appointment of a Parish Councillor as a co-opted member representing the rural area will ensure that the voice of the rural communities is reflected.

Other Implications

- 9.6 The appointment of a Co-opted Member representing the Muslim Community will ensure that the voice of the Muslim Communities is reflected.

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

- 10.1 None

11. APPENDICES

- 11.1 *None*

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