

CHILDREN AND EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No.5
20 JULY 2023	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Rochelle Tapping, Director of Law and Governance	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Councillor Coles, Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Governance	
Contact Officer(s):	Charlotte Cameron, Senior Democratic Services Officer	Tel.01733 384628

APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED MEMBERS 2023-2024

RECOMMENDATIONS	
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 Sameena Aziz as a Co-opted Member with no voting rights to represent the Muslim Community for the municipal year 2023/2024. 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 Sameena Aziz as a Non-Voting Co-opted Member for the municipal year 2023/24 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**

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	N/A
---	-----------	----------------------------------	------------

4. **BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES**

4.1 **Independent Co-opted Members**

4.2 **Sameena Aziz - Muslim Community Representative**

Sameena has been an Independent Co-opted Member of the Committee since July 2021.

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

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 Education 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.

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 for this municipal year.

5. **NEXT STEPS**

- 5.1 If the Committee agree to appoint the above nominations as co-opted members of the Children and Education Scrutiny Committee from 20 July 2023, 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.

6. **CONSULTATION**

- 6.1 None

7. **ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT**

- 7.1 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.

8. **REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION**

- 8.1 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*

9. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 9.1 N/A

10. IMPLICATIONS

10.1 Financial Implications

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

10.2 Legal Implications

There are no legal implications in respect of what is proposed.

10.3 Equalities Implications

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

10.4 Rural Implications

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.

10.5 Other Implications

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

11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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

- 11.1 None

12. APPENDICES

- 12.1 *None*

This page is intentionally left blank