

<b>Committee:</b> Overview and Scrutiny	<b>Date:</b> 04 November 2014	<b>Classification</b> Unrestricted	<b>Report No:</b>	<b>Agenda Item No:</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Service Head Democratic Services  <b>Originating Officer(s):</b> Angus Taylor, Principal Committee Officer, Democratic Services		<b>Title</b> Co-options to Overview and Scrutiny Committee and membership update  <b>Ward(s) affected:</b> All		

## 1. Summary

- 1.1 The report provides the OSC with an update on the current position in relation to the co-option of Parent Governor and Muslim Community representatives in respect of education matters.
- 1.2 The OSC is requested to agree to extend the co-option of Parent Governor representatives co-opted to the membership of the OSC at the start of the Municipal Year, in accordance with statutory requirements and the Council's Constitution (as amended). The OSC is also asked to subsequently note its revised membership, as set out in Appendix 2 to this report.

## 2. Recommendations

That the Overview & Scrutiny Committee:

- 2.1 Note the current position in relation to the co-option of representatives in respect of education matters, as set out at paragraphs 3.1 to 3.4;
- 2.2 Agree to extend the co-option of Parent Governor representatives, co-opted to the membership of the OSC at the start of the Municipal Year, until new nominations are approved by full Council, as set out at paragraph 3.4.4;
- 2.3 Note, subject to the agreement of recommendation 2.2 above, the current membership of the OSC as set out in Appendix 2.

## 3. Co-option of Education and other Representatives to Overview and Scrutiny Committee

- 3.1 The OSC, at its meeting held on 08 July 2014, considered a report "Appointment of Scrutiny Lead Members, Co-options to Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Health Scrutiny Panel Terms of Reference and Appointments" (agenda item 6.2) which advised it of the statutory and constitutional provisions and requirements relating to the co-option of

representatives in respect of education matters (set out at Appendix 1 for ease of reference). Accordingly the OSC noted the co-option of nominated representatives as set out in the table below:

Church of England Diocese representative	Dr Phillip Rice
Roman Catholic Diocese of Westminster representative	A nomination is awaited
Parent Governor representative	A nomination is awaited
Parent Governor representative	Nozrul Mustafa
Parent Governor representative	Reverend James Olanipekun
Muslim Community Representative	Shaynul Khan to be approved by Council 30 July 2014

3.2.1 Full Council, at its meeting held on 30 July 2014 considered a report on the appointment of a co-opted member [Muslim Community Representative (non voting)] to the OSC and agreed: -

- That the Council approve the appointment of Mr Shaynul Khan as a non-voting co-opted member of the OSC representing the Muslim Community in the borough, for the remainder of the administration (until May 2018), subject to confirmation of the acceptability of the appointment by the Tower Hamlets Council of Mosques.
- That in future the principal consultation when filling this position will be the Tower Hamlets Council of Mosques.

3.2.2 Committee Services has subsequently written to the Tower Hamlets Council of Mosques seeking confirmation of the acceptability of the appointment of Mr Shaynul Khan as a non-voting co-opted member of the OSC representing the Muslim Community in the borough. A response is awaited and this will be reported to OSC when received.

3.3 The OSC, at its meeting held on 30 September 2014, considered a report "Co-option of Roman Catholic Church Representative to Overview and Scrutiny Committee" (agenda item 10.1) which informed the OSC of the nomination to its membership of a Roman Catholic Church Representative; and requested the OSC agree the co-option. Accordingly the OSC agreed the co-option as set out below:

Roman Catholic Diocese representative	Ms Victoria Ekubia
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3.4.1 The term of appointment for the two Parent Governor representatives co-opted to membership of the OSC at the start of the municipal year 2014/15 has now expired, and therefore technically the 3 Parent Governor Representative membership positions (voting representatives in respect of education matters) are currently vacant.

3.4.2 A recruitment process commenced in June with a letter to all Parent Governors informing them of:

- The function of OSC
- The statutory provision for 3 Parent Governor Representatives and their role
- The need to seek nominations to the positions and how to express an interest
- The election process required if there were more than 3 nominations.

3.4.3 A ballot of Parent Governors for the available Parent Governor positions will take place in November, with a view to approval of resulting nominations by full Council.

3.4.4 Therefore to ensure continued Parent Governor representation on the Committee, and associated participation (and voting if appropriate) in OSC consideration of business, during the intervening period, the OSC is recommended to agree to extend the co-option of Parent Governor representatives, co-opted to the membership of the OSC at the start of the Municipal Year (as set out below), until fresh co options are agreed by full Council in the new year.

Parent Governor representative	Nozrul Mustafa
Parent Governor representative	Reverend James Olanipekun

3.5 The OSC is also asked, subject to the agreement of the recommended extension of co-options in respect of education matters (parent governors), to subsequently note its revised membership, as set out in Appendix 2 to this report.

## **5. Comments of the Chief Financial Officer**

5.1 There are no specific financial implications arising from the recommendations set out in the report, but in the event that the Council agrees further action in response to this report's recommendations then officers will be obliged to seek the appropriate financial approval before further financial commitments are made.

## **6. Legal comments**

6.1 Section 9F of the Local Government Act 2000 requires authorities to set up an Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Council's Constitution makes appropriate provision for this.

6.2 Section 9FA(4) of the Local Government Act 2000 confirms that a sub-committee of an overview and scrutiny committee may include persons who are not members of the authority. This is consistent with section 102(3) of the Local Government Act 1972 which makes similar provision in relation to committees and sub-committees.

6.3 The Parent Governor Representatives (England) Regulations 2001 require the Committee to have between 2 and 5 parent governor representatives who are to be elected in accordance with the provisions of those regulations.

## **7. One Tower Hamlets Considerations**

7.1 Equal opportunities and reducing poverty will be central to the work of the OSC. The report ensures the Committee is properly informed of changes to its composition.

## **8. Sustainable Action for a Greener Environment**

8.1 There are no specific SAGE implications arising from the recommendations in the report.

## **9. Risk Management Implications**

9.1 The Co option of representatives in respect of education matters is necessary for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to meet its statutory and constitutional obligations and in particular the functions conferred on the Council by the provisions referred to in the body of the report.

## **10. Crime and Disorder Reduction Implications**

10.1 There are no specific Crime and Disorder Reduction implications arising from the recommendations in the report.

## **11. Appendices**

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Appendix 1 Statutory and constitutional provisions and requirements relating to the co-option of representatives in respect of education matters

Appendix 2 Revised Overview and Scrutiny Committee Membership 2014/15

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### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972 SECTION 100D (AS AMENDED) LIST OF “BACKGROUND PAPERS” USED IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT**

Brief description of “background paper”

If not supplied  
Name and telephone  
number of holder

n/a