


Non-Executive Report of the: Council 18 th July, 2018	
Report of: Asmat Hussain, Corporate Director Governance, Corporate Director	Classification: Unrestricted
Overview and Scrutiny Committee - Appointment of Co-Opted Members	

Originating Officer(s)	David Knight, Principal Committee Services Officer
Wards affected	All wards

Executive Summary

The Council has appointed an Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) to perform the functions set out in Part Two, Article Six of the Constitution (OSC Terms of Reference). The Committee has the power to appoint both voting and non-voting co-opted members from the community.

Following the expiry of terms of office of current co-optees, the Council has conducted a campaign to seek nominations to all six co-opted positions on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Nominations have now been received. The Council's Constitution states that such appointments must be approved by Council.

Recommendations:

Council is recommended to:

1. Approve the following proposed co-optees of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee:
 1. Dr Philip Rice as the Church of England diocese representative;
 2. Joanna Hannan as the Roman Catholic diocese representative;
 3. Muhammad Khoyrul Shaheed as the Muslim faith representative; and
 4. Neil Cunningham; Ahmed Hussain and Fatiha Kassouri as parent governor representatives.

2. Agree that the appointments above will take effect immediately and will be reviewed following the Council elections in May 2022 (or such earlier date as required).

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 The Council is required by section 9F of the Local Government Act 2000 to have an Overview and Scrutiny Committee and to have executive arrangements that ensure the committee has specified powers. Consistent with this obligation, Article 6 of the Council's Constitution provides that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee may consider any matter affecting the area or its inhabitants and may make reports and recommendations to the Full Council or the Executive in connection with the discharge of any functions. The Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules which are set out in the Council's Constitution provide detail as to how the Committee carries out its work.
- 1.2 Section 9FA of the Local Government Act 2000 specifies that an overview and scrutiny committee of a local authority (or any sub-committee of such a committee) may include persons who are not members of the authority. Pursuant to Schedule A1 to the Local Government Act 2000 the Council must have specified categories of co-opted members on its overview and scrutiny committee who will be entitled to vote on education matters. Otherwise, it is for the Council to determine what co-opted members the Committee will have and what voting rights will be given to co-opted members of the Committee.
- 1.3 Rule 4 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules provides that the Committee must include specified co-opted members, in accordance with the legislative requirement.
- 1.4 In accordance with statutory requirements and as permitted within the discretion given by the Local Government Act 2000, the Council has determined that the OSC will include six co-optees as follows:
- One Church of England diocese representative;
 - One Roman Catholic diocese representative;
 - One Muslim faith representative; and
 - Three parent governor representatives.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 The Council could decide to not appoint the proposed nominees, however this would mean the Council's statutory and constitutional obligations to include co-optees in the membership of its Overview and Scrutiny Committee are not met.

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

- 3.1 The Council has requested nominations for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

- 3.2 In accordance with statute, a nomination was requested from the Church of England and Roman Catholic Church dioceses for their representatives. Both dioceses informed the Council that the current co-optees were re-nominated. The Church of England and Roman Catholic Church nominees are listed in the recommendation above.
- 3.3 An open recruitment process was held for the Muslim faith representative co-optee. The Council received one application, Muhammad Khoyrul Shaheed.
- 3.4 In accordance with statute, an open recruitment process was held for the three parent governor positions, whereby all current parent governors of Tower Hamlets maintained schools were invited to self-nominate. At the deadline the Council had received three applications; the maximum number of nominations without the need to hold an election. The nominees are listed in the recommendation above.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None specific to this report.

5. OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 None specific to this report.

6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 6.1 The selection and recruitment of co-opted members has been carried out through existing resources and the allowances for attending the Committee meetings will be funded through existing member allowance budgets. There are no additional financial implications arising from the recommendations within this report.

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

- 7.1 This report is submitted by the Corporate Director, Governance, and all relevant legal and constitutional issues are referred to in the body of the report.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

1. NONE.

Appendices

2. NONE

**Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended) list of
“Background Papers” used in the preparation of this report**

3. Application forms of nominees for parent governor and Muslim representative co-optees.

Officer contact details for documents:

- Afazul Hoque, Head of Corporate Strategy & Policy