

<p>Non-Executive Report of the:</p> <p><b>Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee</b></p> <p>Monday 22 April 2024</p>	 <p><b>TOWER HAMLETS</b></p>
<p><b>Report of:</b> Linda Walker, Interim Director Legal and Monitoring Officer</p>	<p><b>Classification:</b> Open (Unrestricted)</p>
<p><b>Appointment of Co-opted Members to Sub Committees</b></p>	

<b>Originating Officer(s)</b>	Matthew Mannion, Head of Democratic Services
<b>Wards affected</b>	All

### Executive Summary

The Committee is asked to note the selection process for two co-opted members and appoint them to the two respective Scrutiny Sub Committees.

### Recommendations:

The Committee is recommended to:

1. Agree the appointment of Hasan Chowdhury to the position of Parent Governor representative on the Children and Education Scrutiny Sub Committee for the period of the current administration.
2. Agree the appointment of Jessic Chiu to the position of Healthwatch representative on the Health and Adults Scrutiny Sub Committee for the period of the current administration.

### 1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 To appoint an elected candidate to a role on the Children and Education Scrutiny Sub Committee in accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules and the terms or reference the Children and Education Scrutiny Sub Committee.
- 1.2 To appoint a nominated candidate to a role on the Health and Adults Scrutiny Sub Committee in accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Procedure Rules and accordance with the terms of reference the Health and Adult Scrutiny Sub Committee.

### 2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 There are no alternative options. The proposed candidate has been elected as the nominee to the parent governor co-optee position following an election

process held in accordance with statutory requirements of the Children and Education.

Additionally the proposed candidate has been nominated as the Healthwatch Tower Hamlets representative on the Health and Adults Scrutiny Sub-Committee.

### **3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT**

#### **Introduction**

- 3.1 The Council's scrutiny arrangements provide for the appointment of statutory education co-optees who sit on the Children's and Education Scrutiny Sub Committee. a Church of England representative; a Roman Catholic representative; a Muslim representative and 3 Parent Governor representatives.
- 3.2 Most of the statutory education co-optees for the current administration were appointed at the Committee meeting in June 2022. It was reported at the sub-committee meeting in October 2023 one of the Parent Governor representative Abena Adeji resigned from the role.
- 3.3 In accordance with the relevant legislation an election was held, supported by officers in the Council's Governor Services team, to determine the nominee for this one remaining parent governor role between [January and February 2024]. Hasan Chowdhury, who is a parent governor at Cayley Primary School, was elected as the preferred candidate. The Committee is asked to appoint Mr Hasan Chowdhury to the position of co-opted Parent Governor Representative on the Children and Education Scrutiny Sub Committee.
- 3.4 The terms of reference on the Health and Adults Scrutiny Sub Committee provide for Tower Hamlets Healthwatch to nominate a non-voting Co-opted member. In February 2024 Healthwatch advised the council that they wish to replace the current nominee Nicola Lawrence with Ms Jessica Chiu.
- 3.5 The Committee is asked to appoint Ms Jessica Chiu to the position of Healthwatch representative on the Health and Adults Scrutiny Sub Committee.

### **4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no direct equalities implications arising from the recommendation in this report.

### **5. OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 This section of the report is used to highlight further specific statutory implications that are either not covered in the main body of the report or are required to be highlighted to ensure decision makers give them proper consideration. Examples of other implications may be:

- Best Value Implications,
- Consultations,
- Environmental (including air quality),
- Risk Management,
- Crime Reduction,
- Safeguarding.
- Data Protection / Privacy Impact Assessment.

5.2 The Council's Code of Conduct for Members applies to scrutiny co-optees. Training will be provided by officers to the co-opted representatives on the Code of Conduct which will include declarations of interest, exempt reports and data protection.

## **6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER**

6.1 This report provides an update on the selection of co-opted representatives for **scrutiny sub-committees** and asks the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to endorse the candidates selected. The only financial implication as a result of the recommendation within this report is to note that each co-opted representative is entitled to claim an attendance allowance of **£136** per meeting. This will be funded within existing budget.

## **7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES**

7.1 Pursuant to section 9FA (4) and (5) of the Local Government Act 2000, 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 but any persons who are not members of the local authority are not entitled to vote at any meeting of its overview and scrutiny committee, or any sub-committee of such a committee, except where this is permitted under Schedule A1 to the Act. Paragraph 11 of Schedule A1 permits a Local Authority to allow a co-opted representative to the Committee or sub-committee to vote in accordance with a scheme. The Council's Constitution permits the appointment of a Muslim representative to the Education sub-committee and for that representative to vote on education matters only.

7.2 The Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules provides that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be responsible for agreeing the appointment of coopted representatives. This report is asking for the Committee to approve the appointment of one (1) co-opted representatives to the Children and Education Scrutiny Sub Committee and such request is within the Committees powers. Until such time as the Committee approves the appointment, the co-opted representatives cannot sit on the Committee

7.3 When taking action, the Council must have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful conduct under the Equality Act 2010, the need to advance equality of opportunity and the need to foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not (the public sector equality duty).

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## **Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents**

### **Linked Report**

- None.

### **Appendices**

- None.

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

- None.

### **Officer contact details for documents:**

Joel West, Democratic Services Team Leader (Committee)