

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING:	Early Years, Children and Youth Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel
MEETING DATE:	9th July 2012
TITLE:	CO-OPTED MEMBERSHIP OF THE EARLY YEARS, CHILDREN AND YOUTH POLICY DEVELOPMENT & SCRUTINY PANEL RELATING TO SCHOOL MATTERS
WARD:	ALL
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM	
List of attachments to this report: None	

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 This report invites the Early Years, Children and Youth Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel to amend the arrangements for co-opted membership of the Panel dealing with schools matters.
- 1.2 The Panel's co-option of permanent members, in addition to the statutory co-optees, is based on the desire to continue at Member level a fruitful working arrangement involving staff and governor representatives which has served the Authority well under the former Education Committee and the predecessor to this current Panel (CYP).

2 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 The Panel is recommended to:

- a) Agree that the current arrangements for non-voting co-opted Education members of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel should be amended.
- b) Note the current statutory membership.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 If teachers or staff representatives are required to attend Panel meetings during their normal hours of work there may be financial implications arising from the need to provide cover. The payment of travel or other expenses to co-opted members would also need to be taken into account.

3.2 All claims in respect of the above would be met from within the existing budget for the Panel.

4 THE REPORT

4.1 The current co-opted membership of the panel is as follows:

Statutory

- 2 statutory voting members, 1 from the Church of England Diocese and 1 from the Roman Catholic Diocese respectively
- 2 statutory voting parent governor members with a two-year term of office (*Governor representatives will be elected by peer governors for Primary and Secondary schools through a process administered by Governor Support services within the People and Communities department*)

Non-statutory

- 1 non-voting member who is a Primary School Representative
- 1 non-voting member who is a Secondary School Representative
- 3 non-voting members who are governors representing secondary, primary and special schools respectively
- 3 non-voting members nominated to represent the professional teaching associations
- 2 non-voting members who represent DAFBY (Democratic Action for B&NES Youth)

4.2 The proposal is to amend the non-statutory co-opted membership by replacing the two places allocated to DAFBY with 1 place allocated to the local Member of the Youth Parliament and 1 place allocated to a Member of the Young Equalities Impact Assessment Group.

4.3 Voting rights for the statutory co-optees apply only to those items concerned with education issues.

4.4 Co-opted members are not expected to attend for those agenda items that are not concerned with education issues.

4.5 Schools are consulted about the allocation of funding through the Schools Forum. Each phase of education is represented by headteachers and governors, with diocesan and trades union representatives. The representation of the Schools Forum on the Panel will be through the co-opted members.

It should be noted that continuing membership of the Panel is not the only avenue for consultation on school matters. Officers carry out such consultation with those affected as part of the preparatory process before matters are brought forward to Members. The Panel may also choose to consult interest groups, local partnerships and further educational establishments on matters of particular interest by inviting them to contribute to a specific meeting. This is often more welcomed by representatives of these organisations because of their other commitments than the time required to serve as a regular co-optee of the Panel.

5 RISK MANAGEMENT

5.1 A risk assessment is not relevant for this governance issue.

6 EQUALITIES

6.1 An EqlA has not been completed although it is understood that all groups affected have been party to discussions and are in agreement to the proposal.

7 CONSULTATION

7.1 *Cabinet Member; Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel*

8 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION

8.1 *Social Inclusion; Young People; Human Rights;*

9 ADVICE SOUGHT

9.1 The Council's Monitoring Officer (Divisional Director – Legal and Democratic Services) and Section 151 Officer (Divisional Director - Finance) have had the opportunity to input to this report and have cleared it for publication.

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Background papers	
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	