

**TO: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION  
1 JULY 2013**

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**APPOINTMENT OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CHILDREN,  
YOUNG PEOPLE & LEARNING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL  
Assistant Chief Executive**

**1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 Legislation<sup>1</sup> stipulates that local authorities operating executive arrangements must appoint representatives from the Church of England and Roman Catholic Church to each Overview & Scrutiny (O&S) committee and sub-committee whose functions relate wholly or partly to any education functions.
- 1.2 The Children, Young People & Learning O&S Panel has responsibility for these functions. The O&S Commission also shares some responsibility for these functions. A vacancy for a Church of England nominee has applied since the resignation of Gordon Anderson as the Church of England representative in July 2011.

**2 RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 **That the Overview and Scrutiny Commission appoint Reverend Canon Nick Parish as the Church of England representative to the Children, Young People & Learning Overview and Scrutiny Panel for an open- ended term of office until such time as his nomination is withdrawn.**

**3 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 To meet the statutory requirement to have a Church of England nominee on the O&S Panel responsible for education issues.

**4 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 4.1 The Council's Constitution stipulates that Council will appoint members of the Overview and Scrutiny (O&S) Commission, and the O&S Commission shall appoint members of the O&S Panels.
- 4.2 At its meeting on 17 July, Council is being invited to appoint Reverend Canon Nick Parish to the O&S Commission for an open- ended term of office until such time as his nomination is withdrawn.
- 4.3 A vacancy currently exists on the Children, Young People & Learning Overview & Scrutiny Panel and the Overview & Scrutiny Commission respectively, for a Church of England nominee. This vacancy arose as a result of the resignation of Gordon Anderson as the Church of England representative in July 2011. Officers have periodically asked the Oxford Diocese of the Church of England, which covers Bracknell Forest, to nominate a replacement. On 23 May 2013 the Oxford Diocese nominated Reverend Cannon Nick Parish, who currently leads the Church of England Team Ministry for Bracknell (three churches at Holy Trinity, St Andrews Priestwood and St Pauls, Harmans Water) and has lived in Bracknell for many years.

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<sup>1</sup> Schedule A1 to the Local Government Act 2000

- 4.4 The role of a Church of England representative is to:
- attend and contribute to the meetings of the committees to which they are appointed,
  - establish good relations with other members and officers,
  - feedback to the Church of England the Authority's discussions of, and decisions on, education,
  - abide by the Council rules on committee procedure; and
  - act with due propriety according to standards laid down for conduct in local government.

## **5 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS**

### Borough Solicitor

- 5.1 Schedule A1 to the Local Government Act 2000 requires local education authorities in England which maintain one or more Church of England schools, to include in the membership of an overview and scrutiny committee or sub-committee, whose functions relate wholly or partly to any education functions which are the responsibility of the authority's executive, at least one qualifying person from the Church of England. A qualifying person is nominated by the Diocesan Board of Education for any Church of England diocese which falls wholly or partly in the authority concerned's area.

### Borough Treasurer

- 5.2 Church representatives are eligible to claim an allowance of £291 per annum as well as being eligible to claim travel expenses when attending meetings or training outside of the borough. The cost can be met from within existing budgets.

### Equalities Impact Assessment

- 5.3 Not applicable.

### Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 5.4 None.

## **6 CONSULTATION**

### Principal Groups Consulted

- 6.1 Church of England Oxford Diocese

### Method of Consultation

- 6.2 Letter and email.

### Contact for further information

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