

**OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMISSION  
20 NOVEMBER 2008**

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**APPOINTMENT OF PARENT GOVERNOR REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SOCIAL CARE &  
LEARNING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL  
(Director of Corporate Services)**

**1 PURPOSE OF DECISION**

- 1.1 Legislation stipulates that local authorities operating executive arrangements must appoint at least two and not more than five parent governor representatives to each Overview & Scrutiny committee and sub-committee whose functions relate wholly or partly to any education functions.
- 1.2 The Social Care and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Panel have responsibility for these functions. The Overview and Scrutiny Commission also shares some responsibility for these functions.

**2 RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 **That the Commission appoint Mr Patrick Josephs-Franks as a parent governor representative to the Social Care & Learning Overview & Scrutiny Panel for a term of office of four years, subject to Council's decision to formally appoint him on 26 November.**

**3 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS**

Borough Solicitor

- 3.1 The Parent Governor Representative (England) Regulations 2001 require between two and five parent governor representatives to be appointed, to an overview and scrutiny committee or sub-committee having education within its remit. Such representatives are to be elected in accordance with regulations.

Borough Treasurer

- 3.2 Parent governor representatives are eligible to claim an allowance of £273 per annum as well as being eligible to claim travel expenses when attending meetings. It is anticipated that the cost to the Council of an additional representative can be met from existing budgets.

Equalities Impact Assessment

- 3.3 None.

Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 3.4 None.

## **4 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 4.1 On 17 July 2008, the Overview & Scrutiny Commission agreed that two parent governors should be appointed to both the Social Care & Learning Overview & Scrutiny Panel and the Overview & Scrutiny Commission respectively, one primary school and one secondary school parent governor, with a term of office of four years each.
- 4.2 One vacancy currently exists on the Social Care & Learning Overview & Scrutiny Panel and the Overview & Scrutiny Commission respectively, for a secondary school parent governor representative. This vacancy arose as a result of the resignation of Ms Denise Whitbread as parent governor representative in January 2007. In line with the Parent Governor Representative (England) Regulations 2001 and the Supplementary Guidance, in April 2007, letters were sent to all parent governor representatives in the Borough inviting nominations for the vacancy, but no nominations were received.
- 4.3 In July 2008 nominations were again sought and one nomination was received. In the absence of any other nominations it was not necessary to hold a ballot. This nomination was received from a Mr Patrick Josephs-Franks who is currently a parent governor at Garth Hill College.
- 4.3 Council will be asked to formally appoint Mr Patrick Josephs-Franks to the Overview & Scrutiny Commission on 26 November 2008.
- 4.4 Parent governor representatives are elected by fellow parent governors and have voting rights relating to any education matter considered by the Overview & Scrutiny Commission or the Social Care & Learning Overview & Scrutiny Panel.
- 4.5 The role of a parent governor representative is to:
- act as an apolitical voice for parents in the area; representing to the local authority the main education issues which concern parents or pupils maintained by the Authority;
  - liaise with other parent governors at their own Authority,
  - attend and contribute to the meetings of the committees to which they are appointed,
  - establish good relations with other members and officers,
  - feedback to parents 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.

### Background Papers

Parent Governor Representative (England) Regulations 2001

### Contact for further information

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### Doc. Ref

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