

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Appointment Of Co-opted Members</b>
<b>FOR CONSIDERATION BY</b>	Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 2 November 2022
<b>WARD</b>	None Specific;
<b>LEAD OFFICER</b>	Assistant Director, Governance - Andrew Moulton

**OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY**

A wider diversity of views provided within the membership of the O&S Committee.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Committee ratifies the appointments of two co-opted members as follows:

- Sarah Clarke, Chair of SEND Voices Wokingham (non-voting); and
- Richard Lamey, Church of England representative (voting rights for education matters only)

**SUMMARY OF REPORT**

The report outlines the process for the appointment of co-opted members to the CSO&S Committee.

The Local Government Act 2000 requires local education authorities which maintain Church of England Schools to include at least one representative of the Church of England on any relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Subcommittee. Similar provision is included for Roman Catholic Schools that are maintained.

The nomination for the Church of England representative must be made by the appropriate Diocesan Board of Education and for the Roman Catholic Church the nomination must be made by the Bishop of the appropriate Diocese.

**Background**

In accordance with the Council's Constitution, representatives of the Church of England Diocese and Roman Catholic Diocese, together with Parent Governor Representatives will automatically be entitled to be members of the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee. When considering Education related issues these representatives will automatically be entitled to sit on the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee and/or any of the other Committees or Task and Finish Groups and vote on such matters.

The CSO&S may also appoint non-voting co-opted members as necessary. Greater engagement from members of the local community is welcomed and enriches discussions, thus improving the overview and scrutiny process.

The Committee has sought, for a number of years, to recruit co-opted members to fill in the vacancies for governors and church representatives, without success. The

Committee therefore welcomes the interest of the two volunteers to take on the positions of co-opted members in the Committee.

Co-opted members are subject to the same rules of Code of Conduct that apply to elected members, as set out in chapter 9.2 of the Council's Constitution.

The Committee is asked to ratify the appointments of:

- Sarah Clarke – Chair of SEND Voices Wokingham; and
- Fr Richard Lamey – Church of England representative

These appointments are for the remainder of the 2022/23 municipal year.

Upon ratification of the appointments, the above named co-opted members will be required to adhere to the Code of Conduct, in the same way that elected Members are expected to, as set out in the Council's Constitution.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION

***The Council faces severe funding pressures, particularly in the face of the COVID-19 crisis. It is therefore imperative that Council resources are focused on the vulnerable and on its highest priorities.***

	How much will it Cost/ (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)	n/a		
Next Financial Year (Year 2)	n/a		
Following Financial Year (Year 3)	n/a		

### Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision

n/a

### Cross-Council Implications

n/a

### Public Sector Equality Duty

Please confirm that due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty has been taken and if an equalities assessment has been completed or explain why an equalities assessment is not required.

N/A

***Climate Emergency – This Council has declared a climate emergency and is committed to playing as full a role as possible – leading by example as well as by exhortation – in achieving a carbon neutral Wokingham Borough by 2030***

N/A

### List of Background Papers

## WBC's Constitution

6.3.9

[\(NOTE – This section may be subject to change following the Annual Council meeting \(moderngov.co.uk\)\)](#)

9.2

[CHAPTER 9 \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

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