

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Council
DATE	15 March 2017
LEAD OFFICER	Interim Director of Corporate Governance
TITLE OF REPORT	Education and Children's Services Committee – External Appointment (Roman Catholic Church Representative)
REPORT NUMBER	CG/17/037
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The report brings before the Council details of a nomination from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Aberdeen for a new Roman Catholic Church representative on the Education and Children's Services Committee following the resignation of Mrs Wischik.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council approve the appointment of Mr John Murray as the Roman Catholic Church external member on the Education and Children's Services Committee.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial implications associated with this report are minimal. Each external member requires to undertake a PVG Scheme check. Each application to the PVG Scheme costs £59 for new members and £18 if they are existing members staying within the same group. Checks for external members will be processed by HR in line with the procedure for dealing with PVG checks for Elected Members.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

The Council has a statutory obligation to appoint three religious representatives to the Education and Children's Services Committee, the purposes of which include advising the authority on any matters relating to the discharge of their function as education authority. If the Council fails to appoint a Roman Catholic Church representative, it will be in breach of a statutory duty.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

Section 124 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (as amended by the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1994) requires local authorities, in appointing a Committee whose purposes include advising the authority on any matter relating to the discharge of their functions as education authority, or discharging any of those functions of the authority on their behalf, to appoint one representative of the Church of Scotland, one representative of the Roman Catholic Church, and one representative of other churches and denominational bodies, in the selection of whom, the authority shall have regard (taking account of the representation of the churches referred to above) to the comparative strength within their area of all the churches and denominational bodies having duly constituted charges or other regularly appointed places of worship there.

Mrs Wischik has resigned her position as the Roman Catholic Church representative on the Education and Children's Services Committee. Roman Catholic Diocese of Aberdeen has advised that Mr John Murray has been nominated as the replacement representative for this Committee. The Council is asked to agree the appointment of Mr Murray.

6. IMPACT

Appointing religious representatives on the Education and Children's Services Committee is the Council complying with its statutory duty.

The appointment of the replacement Roman Catholic Church religious representative has links with the Council's commitment to progress equalities work in relation to religion/belief.

Beyond this the proposal has no specific impact on customer experience, staff experience or the Council's use of resources.

An Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment is not required as the proposal does not disproportionately impact on persons with protected characteristics compared to persons without such characteristics

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

If the Council fails to appoint a replacement Roman Catholic Church representative, it will be in breach of a statutory duty.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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