

COUNCIL MEETING – 15 NOVEMBER 2018

Recommendation to Council from the General Purposes Committee held on 30 October 2018

GPC/18/28. **Election of Parent Governor Co-opted representatives for the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

The Committee considered a report on the proposal to amend the Constitution to allow for the appointment of parent governor representatives from Central Bedfordshire academies to the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committees from May 2019 onwards.

It was noted that the Council was required by law to appoint between 2-5 parent governors to the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee. At the current time the committee had 3 parent governors elected to serve a four year term up to 2019. It was proposed that the Constitution be amended to permit the appointment of one additional parent governor representative from the academy schools in Central Bedfordshire.

Points and comments included:

- That, currently, for the committee to be quorate, there would need to be 4 councillors and 2 co-opted members (either parent governors or diocesan representatives) but it was noted that there were concerns with non-attendance from some co-opted members which risked the meeting becoming inquorate.
- It was noted that due to the importance of special education needs it would be preferable to include representatives with specialist expertise.
- The current membership size of the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee was 10 elected Members whereby other Overview and Scrutiny Committees membership total was 9.
- The option of including a representative as a non-voting observer who could attend and provide the expertise needed was discussed.
- The cost implications of appointing additional co-optees.

RECOMMENDED to Council

- 1. that the proposed amendments to Part 3C of the Constitution, as set out in Appendix A to the General Purposes Committee report, be approved; and***
- 2. that, in addition to the proposed amendments outlined in the report, an additional parent governor representative be appointed to the Committee as a representative of Special Schools in Central Bedfordshire.***