



CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 15 June 2021

REPORT TITLE:	APPOINTMENT OF PANELS, STATUTORY / ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND WORKING PARTIES 2021/2022
REPORT OF:	DIRECTOR OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE

REPORT SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to enable the Children, Young People and Education Committee to review the continuing need for various panels, statutory / advisory committees and working parties, and to appoint members and named deputies to serve on those (including the statutory committees and panels) that are to be retained in 2021/2022.

RECOMMENDATION/S

The Committee is requested to:

- (1) authorise the Monitoring Officer as proper officer to carry out the wishes of the Group Leaders in allocating Members to membership of the Statutory and Advisory Committees listed in the report and to appoint those Members with effect from the date at which the proper officer is advised of the names of such Members.
- (2) note the current constitution and membership of the School Appeals Panel.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 The Committee is required to appoint the membership of various panels, statutory / advisory committees and working parties, which fall under its remit at the start of each Municipal Year.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 Other options considered include appointing a different number of members to the statutory and advisory bodies.

3.0 STATUTORY COMMITTEES AND PANELS

- 3.1 The following statutory committees and panels, all of which have full delegated authority, were retained during 2020/2021.

(i). School Appeals Panel

To consider, as part of a statutory review process, appeals against decisions by the Local Authority (or the Governors of voluntary or aided schools) concerning the allocation of places in primary and secondary schools, and decisions by governing bodies concerning the exclusion of pupils.

The School Appeals Panel is drawn from a “pool” of lay members or members with experience in education. However, Councillors are ineligible to serve on the Appeals Panels for schools under local authority control.

(ii). Standing Advisory Committee on Religious Education (SACRE)

SACRE is responsible for advising the local authority on matters concerning the teaching of religious education and collective acts of worship; it decides on applications for determination of cases in which requirements for Christian collective worship are not to apply; and may require the local authority to review its agreed syllabus. The membership should be politically proportionate, with 6 members being 3 Labour, 2 Conservative, 1 Liberal Democrats.

(iii). Wirral Schools Forum (Funding Consultative Group)

The Forum makes recommendations in respect of the allocation of funding to schools and academies from the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) received from the DfE. The Forum must be consulted on any changes to Schools and Early Years funding formulae, arrangements for the education of pupils with special educational needs and funding to meet statutory duties or other agreed commitments. In the composition of the Forum, the Council’s three representatives act only as observers. The membership should be politically proportionate, with 3 members being 2 Labour and 1 Conservative.

4.0 ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND WORKING PARTIES

- 4.1 The following is a list of advisory and consultative bodies that were retained or created in 2020/2021 to assist the Committee in its work.

(i). Young People's Advisory Group

To act as a forum for young people to raise their issues and concerns with local elected members, showcasing youth work delivery across the four constituencies of Wirral.

(ii). Corporate Parenting Panel

Under its Terms of Reference, the Children, Young People and Education Committee is responsible for the appointment of a Sub-Committee and Working Group of five (5) or more members of the Children, Young People and Education Committee. The membership should be politically proportionate, with 5 members being 2 Labour, 2 Conservative, 1 Liberal Democrats. Furthermore [two] non-voting co-opted young people with recent (within the last five years) direct experience of being looked after by or receiving services as a care leaver from the Council should be appointed. The Panel has delegated authority to exercise responsibility for the Council's functions relating to the delivery by or on behalf of the Council, of Corporate Parenting functions with the exception to policy decisions which will remain with the Children and Young People's Committee.

(iii). Schools' JCC (formerly Headteachers and Teachers JCC)

To meet with teachers and school representatives to discuss educational issues.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There is a requirement under the Council's Constitution to appoint Members to various panels, advisory committees and working parties.
- 6.2 There is a requirement under the Admission Appeals Code 2012 to appoint an Independent Appeal Panel to consider Admission Appeals and Exclusion Reviews.
- 6.3 There is a requirement under the Schools Forum (England) Regulations 2012 for Local Authorities to constitute a Schools Forum.

7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT; STAFFING AND ASSETS

- 7.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

8.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 8.1 There is a requirement under the Council's Constitution to appoint Members to various panels, advisory committees and working parties.

9.0 ENGAGEMENT / CONSULTATION

- 9.1 It is for political groups to decide how they wish to allocate their committee places.

10.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

11.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

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APPENDICES

- A. Statutory and Advisory Committee membership for the last municipal year, 2020/21.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Previous reports on the appointment of panels, statutory / advisory committees and working parties and amendments made during the year and the Council's Constitution.

Local Government Association Corporate Parenting Resource Park
Admission Appeals Code 2012

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Council	28 September 2020
Council	14 May 2019
Council	15 May 2018