

**Central Dudley Area Committee - 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2009**

**Co-option**

**Report of the Area Liaison Officer**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To consider the co-option of Youth Representatives to the Committee.

**Background**

2. In considering the issue of co-option of members for 2009/10, the Committee, at its meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2009, resolved to request that the Head of Youth Service seek a nominee to serve as a youth representative.
3. Subsequently, two young people based at the Cloughton Youth Centre, Rhiannon Hutton and Danny Robinson, expressed interest in serving, indicating also that they would prefer to serve jointly. The Chairman and Vice Chairman indicated their agreement to their appointment being made on this basis.
4. Rhiannon and Danny attended the last meeting of the Committee as observers to assist them in deciding whether or not they would wish to serve as formal co-optees. They have since indicated to the Assistant Director of Children's Services (Jane Porter) that they would indeed be prepared to serve on the joint basis referred to above and the Committee is now asked to formalise the co-option on this basis.
5. In response to a suggestion of the Chairman and Vice Chairman that mentoring be offered to Rhiannon and Danny, Councillors Ali and Waltho indicated that they would be happy to provide this facility. Rhiannon and Danny have confirmed that they would wish to take up the offer.

**Finance**

6. Co-opted Members are entitled to receive travelling and assistance allowances in accordance with Section 174 of the Local Government, 1972 and a Financial Loss Allowance in accordance with Section 173(4) of that Act.

## **Law**

7. Section 102(3) of the Local Government Act 1972, provides for Committees of the Council to include persons who are not Members of the Council.

## **Equality Impact**

8. This report enables the Committee to consider the appointments of co-opted Members in order to assist in making meetings more representative of the Local Community. The co-option of youth representatives will assist in ensuring that young people are actively involved in developing and improving services in the Central Dudley Area.

## **Recommendations**

9. That the Committee consider the co-option of youth representatives for the 2009/10 municipal year.
10. That, subject to paragraph 9 above, the Area Liaison Officer make the necessary arrangements with the co-optees and Councillors Ali and Waltho for the mentoring facility to be provided.



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**LINDA SANDERS**  
**AREA LIAISON OFFICER**

Contact Officer: Richard Sanders - Assistant Principal Officer  
(Democratic Services)  
Telephone: 01384 815236  
Email: [richard.sanders@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:richard.sanders@dudley.gov.uk)

## **List of Background Papers**

Minutes 7 and 29 of the meetings of the Central Dudley Area Committee held on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2009 and 8<sup>th</sup> September 2009, respectively, and the reports submitted to those meetings in relation to co-option.