

Stourbridge Area Committee - 18th June 2007

Report of the Area Liaison Officer

Co-opted Members

Purpose of Report

1. To consider the appointment of co-opted members for 2007/8.

Background

2. For 2006/7 the Area Committee appointed the following co-opted members: -
 - Mr G Downing – Local Businesses
 - Mr I Green – Voluntary Community Sector
 - Ms P Shepherd – Local Tenants and Residents
 - Mr K Rodney (and in his absence Mr P Singh) – Ethnic Minorities
 - Ms R Hill – Young People.
3. Ms Hill has indicated that she is not available for reappointment for 2007/8 and an alternative nomination to represent young people is being sought.
4. At the time of writing this report I am awaiting confirmation from Ms Shepherd that she has been nominated by the Area Forum to continue as a co-opted member representing local tenants and residents.
5. The other co-opted members from 2006/7 have indicated their willingness to be co-opted for a further year.
6. The Dudley Association of Governing Bodies (DAGS) has again proposed that Mr James Conway who is a member of their executive be appointed as a co-opted member. A similar nomination has been submitted in previous years but the Committee has taken the view that governors are already represented on the Committee because elected members are governors as well.
7. Members are reminded that the Protocol for Area Committees permits the Area Committee to co-opt up to 5 persons onto the committee for the period expiring with the conclusion of a municipal year. Co-opted members are entitled to speak at meetings but not to vote.

8. The Protocol requires that the committee, in appointing co-opted members, must have due regard to the extent to which persons to be co-opted represent interests of importance within the communities served by the committee. There is a further requirement that co-optees shall not represent the views of any political party on the committee. Furthermore, the committee has previously decided that co-optees must not be employed by the Council or be members of a political party.

Finance

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

Law

10. Section 102(3) of the Local Government Act 1972, enables the Committee to appoint co-opted members.

Equality Impact

11. This report complies fully with the Council's policies on equal opportunities and diversity. The views of young people are represented through the appointment of one of the co-opted members.

Recommendation

12. It is recommended that the Area Committee consider the appointment of co-opted members for 2007/8.

John Polychronakis

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John Polychronakis
Area Liaison Officer

Contact Officer: John Polychronakis
Telephone: 01384 815300
Email: john.polychronakis@dudley.gov.uk

List of Background Papers

1. Correspondence with co-opted members for 2007/8.