

Appointments to Outside Bodies

Policy Proposal

In light of local government elections and the new COSLA Children and Young people Board membership, nominations are required for the Children in Scotland board and the General Teaching Council for Scotland (GTCS) Council.

Summary and Recommendations

Appointments to the Children in Scotland board and the General Teaching Council for Scotland (GTCS) Council will aid in ensuring positive relationships and connections on key policy areas for Local Government.

This paper invites Members to:

- i. Nominate one Member as a Director on the Children in Scotland Board; and
- ii. Nominate two Members to sit on the General Teaching Council Scotland Council.

References

Previous reports on [topic]:

- Education Children and Young People Executive Group Report– Appointments to Outside Bodies - August 2012

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Policy Proposal

1. In light of local government elections and the new COSLA Children and Young people Board membership, nominations are required for the Children in Scotland board and the General Teaching Council for Scotland (GTCS) Council.

Current COSLA Position

2. Children in Scotland have a membership of over 550 children's sector organisations and individuals from the third, public and private sectors. They provide a national voice for all in the children's sector to influence change and improvement through legislation, policy and practices at national and local levels. Children in Scotland has always valued the membership of an elected representative on its board. In the past a member of Education, Children and Young People Executive Group has taken a position on the board. The nominee to the board will be in an ideal position to maintain a connection between local government and Children in Scotland.
3. The General Teaching Council for Scotland (GTCS) carries out a wide range of statutory functions to promote, support and develop the professional learning of teachers including maintaining a register of teachers in Scotland, setting the Professional Standards expected of all teachers, accrediting programmes leading to the award of GTCS Standards including Initial Teacher Education programmes at Scottish universities, advising the Scottish Government professionalism, and investigating and adjudicating on the Fitness to Teach of registrants. There are three seats on the GTCS Council allocated to individuals nominated by COSLA. Two of these are currently vacant, with the third held by Helen Budge (Shetland Islands Council) representing ADES.

What is changing

4. Children in Scotland have requested an Elected Member from the COSLA Children and Young People Board to sit on their board as a director. They will be supported by an officer from the COSLA Children and Young People's Team. The role description is attached as Appendix 1.
5. The GTCS Council seats will be allocated until 1st April 2018, following this nominations will be made for a four year term until 1st April 2022. It is likely that nominees for the position would stay in the role until 2022, unless they stand down or local government elections affect this. There is an agreed position with GTCS and COSLA on the role of ADES on the Council. Full information on the role and responsibility of a member of the GTCS is attached as Appendix 2.

Proposed COSLA Position

6. Children in Scotland Directors have a four year term of office, and can be re-elected for one further four year term. The board meets quarterly in the evening and the AGM is held during the Children in Scotland annual conference in November. Papers are issued a week in advance. An officer will support the Member nominated for this role at meetings. The full role description is attached as Appendix 1.
7. The GTCS seats will be allocated until 1st April 2018, following this nominations will be made for a four year term until 1st April 2022. It is anticipated that nominees for the

position from now would carry on in the role until 2022, unless they stand down or local government elections affect this. This commitment requires attendance at four full GTCS Council meetings a year, serving on at least one and no more than two committees which meet 4-6 times each year, or panels which meet six weekly as required. Committees and Panels involve a time commitment of between 4 and 11 days each year in addition to council meetings. Full information on the role and responsibilities is attached as Appendix 2.

8. For both the Children in Scotland Board, and GTCS Council, Members will report to the COSLA Children and Young People board on meetings and areas of interest.

Next Steps

9. Following nominations, the Board is invited to agree the appointment of one Board member to Children in Scotland, and two Board members to the General Teaching Council Scotland.

Summary and Recommendations

10. Appointments to the Children in Scotland board and the General Teaching Council for Scotland (GTCS) Council will aid in ensuring positive relationships and connections on key policy areas for Local Government.
11. This paper invites Members to:
 - i. Nominate one Member as a Director on the Children in Scotland Board; and
 - ii. Nominate two Members to sit on the General Teaching Council Scotland Council.

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