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Please contact Information Governance
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Dear Sir/ Madam

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)
Request ID: REQ07653**

Thank you for your request for information relating to Education Scrutiny Committee.

Your request and our responses are outlined below:

I would like to understand the exact process around co-optee membership to your Education Scrutiny Committee (or whichever name your Local Authority specifies this committee).

1. Does your LA's Education Scrutiny Committee include any co-opted (non-councillor) members? If so, how many?

Yes, currently two.

2. Are co-opted members co-opted to represent a specific group or organisation?

Yes.

3. Do such co-opted members have specific titles associated with their position?

The constitution allows for the following co-optees:

- (a) One person nominated by the Church of England.
- (b) One person nominated by the Roman Catholic Church.
- (c) One parent governor elected by the parent governors in the City in respect of the Primary phase of education.
- (d) One parent governor elected by the parent governors in the City in respect of the Secondary phase of education.

(e) One representative from other faith groups in the City

4. Is there a formal process for such members being co-opted? What is this process?

Yes, this is through the Council's appointments process at its annual meeting or at other times during the year if required.

5. Does your Terms of Reference (or similar governance document) for the Education Scrutiny Committee define exactly the process in written form (and if so please provide the said document)?

See above.

6. Is there any difference in this process for statutory co-optee members v's non-statutory (discretionary) members

No.

7. Do such co-opted members have voting rights on the committee i.e. the same full privileges as do councillor members on the committee

Such appointees, with the exception for the time being of the representative appointed under (e) above, may speak and vote on education issues only, but may speak on other issues

8. You have a specific space on the committee which is filled by parent governors?

Yes, 2 – however these are currently vacant.

9. Is it a requirement locally for such parent governor representatives to be parent governors at local maintained schools, or are Academy school parent governor representatives allowed?

The requirement is that co-optees to the specific roles identified above are from maintained schools. However, an academy school parent governor can be co-opted, but would fill a non-statutory role.

10. How many Academy school parent governors do you current have on your Education Scrutiny committee in this municipal year?

None.

11. How many Academy school parent governors did you have on your Education Scrutiny committee in the previous municipal year?

None.

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If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: infogov@coventry.gov.uk

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email casework@ico.org.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

Information Governance