

The City of Edinburgh Council

10.05am, Thursday, 27 June 2024

Appointment of Non-Elected Members to City of Edinburgh Council Committees

Executive/routine
Wards

Executive
All

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 To recommend that the Council confirms the appointment of Alexander Ramage as the secondary sector parent representative to the Education, Children and Families Committee, term of office to run from 27 June 2024 to 30 June 2025, following which a nomination process would be undertaken to ensure continuity of representation on the Committee to the end of the current political administration term.
- 1.2 To recommend that the Council confirms the appointment of Louise Collingwood as the primary sector parent representative to the Education, Children and Families Committee, term of office to run from 27 June 2024 to the end of the current political administration term.
- 1.3 To note that the appointments of parent representatives are conditional upon confirmation that the appointees will comply with the Councillors' Code of Conduct and membership of the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Scheme.
- 1.4 To note the term of office for the secondary parent representative would end in June 2025 and towards the end of that term.
- 1.5 To approve the appointment of Nicola Brennan (member representative) and Richard Lamont (employer representative) as members of the Pensions Committee, both with effect from 28 June 2024, for a period of 3 and 2 years respectively.

Dr Deborah Smart
Executive Director of Corporate Services

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2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report seeks agreement for the appointment of Parent Representatives to the Education, Children and Families Committee for the forthcoming period.
- 2.2 The Council is asked to appoint two non-councillor members to the Pensions Committee as required by the Local Government Pension Scheme. The appointments are being made after nominations were sought from the member and employer bodies of Lothian Pension Fund and the Scottish Homes Pension Fund (the Funds).

3. Background

- 3.1 The Council, on 15 December 2022, agreed changes to the membership of parental representatives on the Education, Children and Families Committee. It was agreed to create one primary sector parent representative and one secondary sector parent representative. Both positions are non-voting.
- 3.2 Only members of the Consultative Committee with Parents (CCWP), duly appointed from schools and parent councils, are eligible to be nominated as a parent representative to the Education, Children and Families Committee.
- 3.3 The Pensions Committee is appointed under Section 57 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 to exercise all functions of the pension funds administered by the City of Edinburgh Council within the terms of legislation.
- 3.4 The Pensions Committee is made up of 5 City of Edinburgh elected members and 2 external appointed members, one employer representative and one member representative.
- 3.5 John Anzani (member representative) and Richard Lamont (employer representative) were appointed by the Council to the Pensions Committee in May 2021 for 3 years.

4. Main report

- 4.1 Nominations were sought for the positions of the primary and secondary sector parent representatives to the Education, Children and Families Committee. The term of office would be until the end of this political administration term.
- 4.2 The CCWP recommended that Alexander Ramage be appointed as the secondary sector parent representative to the Committee for the period to 30 June 2025. Alexander Ramage had previously undertaken this role from 24 November 2022 to 12 June 2024. Alexander will no longer have a child in an Edinburgh School from June 2025 and therefore not be eligible for appointment beyond this date. A nomination process would be undertaken towards the end of that term to ensure continuity of representation to the end of the current political administration term.
- 4.3 The CCWP recommended that Louise Collingwood be appointed as the primary sector parent representative to the Committee for the period to the end of the current political administration term. Louise Collingwood had previously undertaken this role from 9 February 2023 to the 12 June 2024
- 4.4 Following the required nominations process, applications were received from Nicola Brennan, a new member representative, and Richard Lamont, the existing employer representative on the Pensions Committee.
- 4.5 Both individuals have been approved by the Funds Appointments Review Panel in line with Lothian Pension Funds Nominations and Appointments Policy.
- 4.6 Nicola Brennan will serve a period of 3 years, and Richard Lamont a further 2 years, whereupon they will either stand down or require to submit themselves as a candidate for further election. This supports a more robust rotation of the non-Councillor members built around phased tenures, reducing the risk of the loss of both external appointed members in the same year. Richard Lamont's reappointment also brings continuity of knowledge and experience during a period of change in the Pensions Committee membership, following some adjustments to membership agreed at the Council meeting on 9 May 2024.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 To make the necessary arrangements to allow the parent representative to undertake the role.
- 5.2 Training will be provided to members as necessary.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 The parent representative is entitled to claim travel and subsistence for attendance at meetings.

7. Equality and Poverty Impact

7.1 None.

8. Climate and Nature Emergency Implications

8.1 None.

9. Risk, policy, compliance, governance and community impact

9.1 Consultation and engagement took place with parent council representatives within each locality.

10. Background reading/external references

10.1 [Minute of The City of Edinburgh Council – 24 November 2022](#)

10.2 [Minute of The City of Edinburgh Council – 15 December 2022](#)

10.3 [Minute of The City of Edinburgh Council – 9 February 2023](#)

10.4 [Webcast – Consultative Committee with Parents – 15 May 2024](#)

11. Appendices

11.1 None.