



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

## **ADULT SERVICES AND HEALTH COMMISSION** **17 July 2006**

Report of the Corporate Director, Corporate and Adult Social Services and Deputy Chief Executive

### **Co-opting individuals to support the work of the Commission**

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 1.1 To thank Pat Hill, Philip Johnson and Elaine Jackson for their contribution to the work of this Commission during the last municipal year.
- 1.2 To consider co-opting individuals with specific knowledge or expertise to support the work of the Commission during the current municipal year.
- 1.3 To note that the statutory co-optees of the Children and Young People's Commission have voting rights only for matters related with LEA education function.

#### **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 2.1 Overview and Scrutiny Commissions are entitled to co-opt individuals with relevant skills or expertise to assist them with their work. These are appointed by the Full Council on recommendation from the Commission provided that the total number of Councillors on the respective Commission is greater than the number of co-optees. With the exception of statutory co-optees relating to the Local Education Authority education function, co-opted members cannot be given voting rights.
- 2.2 The Children and Young People's Commission is now responsible for dealing with LEA education matters and is therefore required to include in its membership the following voting representatives:
  - a. one church of England diocese representative
  - b. one Roman Catholic diocese representative
  - c. two parent governor representatives
  - d. one representative of other faiths or denominations
- 2.3 Where Children and Young People's Commission deals with other matters, these representatives shall not vote on those other matters, though they may stay in the meeting and speak on the subject. It is therefore suggested that the Children and Young People's Commission consider developing its agenda in two parts, with one part concentrating solely on LEA education matters to provide the flexibility for the co-optees to leave the meeting for non education items should they wish.

- 2.4 General guidance on co-option agreed by the Scrutiny Management Commission in 2002 states that the Commissions should consider if the individuals proposed for co-option have the right knowledge and/or expertise in the functions for which the Commission is responsible. The co-option should be politically neutral and be for specific period, specific meetings or specific items.
- 2.5 A number of Commissions have in the past co-opted individuals with specific knowledge or expertise to assist them in their work. The Social Care and Health Commission for example, initially co-opted four members last year. Two of the members, Sir Michael Raymond and Philip Johnson were nominated by the Patient and Public involvement Forum and enable the Commission to continue to maintain close working relationship with the PPI Forum whilst Pat Hill and Elaine Jackson were appointed in their own capacity. Sir Michael Raymond later resigned in October due to ill health.
- 2.6 Members are therefore asked to consider co-opting non-voting members to support the Commission with its overview and scrutiny function, particularly for complex items where input from an individual with specific knowledge or expertise would be helpful in the scrutiny process. It is suggested that Adult Services and Health Commission Members considers appointing an individual from the PPI Forum to maintain close relationship with the Forums as recommended by Department of Health.

<b>For more information contact:</b>	Mr M Hussain 01332 255597 e-mail mahroof.hussain@derby.gov.uk
<b>Background papers:</b>	None
<b>List of appendices:</b>	Appendix 1 – Implications

<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
---------------------

**Financial**

1. Co-opted members are entitled to the same travel and subsistence allowances as elected Members, in terms of attending meetings and associated Council business. This cost can be met from existing budgets.

**Legal**

2. The Council's Procedure Rules on co-option are in line with Government Guidance issued in respect of the Local Government Act 2000. The Local Authority (Overview and Scrutiny Committees Health Scrutiny Functions) Regulations 2003 confirm the powers for cooption.

**Personnel**

3. None.

**Equalities Impact**

4. None.

**Corporate Priorities**

- 5.1 Co-opting individuals to assist the Commissions in their overview and scrutiny function should help to deliver excellent services, performance and value for money.