

MAYOR & CABINET		
Report Title	Appointment of Members to the Initial Management Committee of the Pupil Referral Unit	
Key Decision	No	Item No. 12
Ward		
Contributors	Executive Director for Children & Young People	
Class	Part 1	Date: 13 February 2008

1. Summary

As from 1 February 2008 Pupil Referral Units are required to have an instrument of government setting out the composition of the management committee. The Regulations which set out the requirements for an instrument of government also state that the Local Authority is responsible for the appointment of the members of the initial management committee.

2. Purpose of the Report

To seek the appointment of Local Authority (LA) member/s of the management committee and agreement on the procedure for appointing community members to the initial management committee.

3. Policy Context

A PRU is a school established and maintained by LAs to provide suitable education for children who, by reason of illness, exclusion or otherwise, may not receive such education. Lewisham has one PRU – Abbey Manor College.

It is for the LA to determine the size and composition of the initial management committee and to appoint the LA and community members .

3. Recommendations

It is recommended that Mayor consider whether

- i) to appoint the member detailed in para 5 as a Local Authority nominated member of the management committee
- ii) to delegate to the Executive Director for Children & Young People the appointment of the community members.(para 6)

4. Narrative

4.1 The Education (Pupil Referral Units) (Management Committees etc.) (England) Regulations “the Regulations” require that the LA make an instrument of government for the PRU. It is for the LA to determine the size and composition of the initial management committee and to appoint the LA and community members for that committee. The appointment of community members will subsequently be a matter for the management committee itself.

4.2 There must be no fewer than 7 members on a management committee and the maximum is 20 members. The proportions of places allocated to each of the categories are as follows:

Community members: the number of places must exceed all other members by one or more. Community members are appointed as a member by the committee.

Parent members: at least one place but no more than one-fifth. Parent members are elected from among the parent body..

Staff members: at least one place, but no more than one-third, including the teacher-in-charge. The teacher-in-charge is ex officio ; all other staff members are elected.

Local authority members: at least one place, but no more than one-third. Local Authority members are appointed by the LA.

4.3 The instrument of government of the PRU has two places for LA members.

4.4 Unless otherwise stated in the instrument the term of office for all categories of member is 4 years (except the Head of the PRU who is ex officio). The members detailed in para 5 will be appointed for the normal four year term of office.

4.5 Members of the management committee who were appointed / elected prior to the coming into force of the Regulations (13 November 2007) referred to as ‘current members’ may be considered for election or appointment on the newly established committee as long as they meet the definition of the category of member they wish to serve as. The nominee detailed in para 5 is a ‘current member’. Local councillors are, under the new arrangements, only eligible to serve as Local Authority appointed members of the management committee.

5. Nominations

Cllr Marion Nisbet (Labour)	Cllr Nisbet is a long standing secondary school governor and a very active member of the current management committee.
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6. Community Members

Community members are appointed to represent community interests. Community members should be persons who are committed to the good governance and success of the PRU and who live or work in the community served by the PRU. Community members can be drawn from, for example, local schools, social services, educational charities, local colleges of further education and alternative education and training providers.

7 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

8 Legal Implications

These are set out in the body of the report

9 Crime and Disorder Implications

There are no crime and disorder implications arising from this report

10. Equalities Implications

The instrument of government reflects the interests of the key stake holders parents, staff and the local authority. The category of Community Member – the largest category – gives the LA / Management Committee the necessary flexibility to ensure that the committee is representative of the community it serves.

11. Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

12. Conclusion

The member detailed in paragraph 5 has been a committed member of the previous management committee and is keen to continue to serve on the committee. The DCSF Guidance recommends that such people should be considered by the LA for appointment to the new committee.

Paragraph 6 gives the DCSF description of community members of the management committee. The Director for Children and Young People is best placed to identify such potential members.

Background Papers

<u>Short Title of Document</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>File Location</u>	<u>Contact Officer</u>	<u>Exempt Information</u>
The Education (Pupil Referral Units) (Management Committees etc.) (England) Regulations 2007 (SI 2007 / 2978)	2007	Governors' Services	Lineth Allen	N/a
Education Act 1996	1996	Governors' Services	Lineth Allen	N/a

If there are any queries arising from this report, please contact Lineth Allen, Acting Team Leader Governors' Services, 3rd Floor, Laurence House, telephone 0208 314 7993