

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL**Report by Chief Education Officer****Educational Services Committee: 15 June 2022**

Subject: Appointment of Third Religious Representative to the Educational Services Committee

1. Purpose

- 1.1** To request confirmation of the reappointment of the third religious representative to the Educational Services Committee.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1** The Committee is requested to agree to confirm the reappointment of Mrs Barbara Barnes as the third religious representative on the Educational Services Committee until the next local government elections.

3. Background

- 3.1** In accordance with section 124 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the Council is obliged to appoint to its education committee three persons interested in the promotion of religious education.
- 3.2** The Act requires that one person nominated by the Church of Scotland and another nominated by the Roman Catholic Church be appointed as members of the education committee.
- 3.3** In respect of the third religious representative, the Council is obliged to appoint one person 'in the selection of whom the authority shall have regard... to the comparative strength within their area of all the churches and denominational bodies having duly constituted charges or other regularly appointed places of worship there'.

4. Main Issues

- 4.1** A notice was published on the Council's social media channels on 29 April 2022 which invited nominations for a third religious representative on the Educational Services Committee. The closing date for nominations was 16 May 2022.
- 4.2** One nomination was received, from St Augustine's Scottish Episcopal Church in Dumbarton in respect of Mrs Barbara Barnes. Mrs Barnes was the third religious representative on the Educational Services Committee prior to the 2022 local government elections.

5. People Implications

5.1 There are no people implications.

6. Financial and Procurement Implications

6.1 There are no financial or procurement implications.

7. Risk Analysis

7.1 Failure to appoint a third religious representative to the Educational Services Committee may be a reputational risk to the Council.

8. Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)

8.1 An Equalities Screening was carried out which showed that the process of seeking nominations for the third religious representative was not detrimental to any protected group.

9. Consultation

9.1 No consultation has been carried out in relation to this report.

10. Strategic Assessment

10.1 There is no Strategic Assessment required.

Laura Mason

Chief Education Officer

Date: 17 May 2022

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Appendices: None.

Background Papers:

1. Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.
2. Equalities Screening.
3. Letter from St Augustine's Scottish Episcopal Church in Dumbarton to the Committee Officer dated 3 May 2022.

Wards Affected: All wards.