

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET – 22 AUGUST 2007

NON-ELECTED MEMBER REPRESENTATION - CHURCH REPRESENTATIVES

Joint Report by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support and Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Cabinet of the proposed appointment of a third Church/denominational representative to serve on the Cabinet when it is determining education business.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At the meeting of the Council held on 7 June 2007, the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support was authorised to make appropriate arrangements to appoint three Church Representatives to serve on the Cabinet.
- 2.2 Members will be aware that appointments have been confirmed for representatives of the Church of Scotland and the Roman Catholic Church, namely, Mr Bill McGregor and Mr John McHugh respectively.
- 2.3 Following the meeting, an advert was placed in the local papers circulated throughout East Ayrshire Council area, inviting nominations for a third Church Representative from those individuals who have a particular interest in the promotion of religious education. A copy of the advertisement is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.
- 2.4 In response to the advertisement, one nomination was received on behalf of Dr Ivy Barclay, Winton Place EU Congregational Church. Dr Barclay previously served as a third church representative on the Education Committee from November 2003 until May 2007. Further details of the nomination are contained in Appendix 2 to this report.
- 2.5 When determining this appointment, the Cabinet is required to take account of the comparative strengths in the area of the Churches/denominational bodies having duly a constituted charter or other regularly appointed place of worship.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 Minor administrative costs in terms of attendance at meetings etc.

4. COMMUNITY PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1** Ensuring effective community engagement in the planning and development of local services.

5. LEGAL AUTHORITY

- 5.1** Where a Local Authority appoints a Cabinet, there is a statutory requirement to appoint three Church representatives in terms of Section 124 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as amended by Section 31 of the Local Government Etc (Scotland) Act 1994.

6. RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1** It is recommended that the Cabinet agree the nomination submitted by Dr Ivy Barclay, Winton Place EU Congregational Church, to serve as third Church Representative/denominational representative on the Cabinet when it is determining education business.

Elizabeth Morton
Depute Chief Executive/
Executive Director of Corporate Support

Graham Short
Executive Director of Educational &
Social Services

SMcH/SW
6 August 2007

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS - NIL

Any person wishing further information on the report should contact Bill Walkinshaw, Head of Democratic Services on Tel No (01563) 576135.

Implementation Officer: Bill Walkinshaw, Head of Democratic Services

APPENDIX 2

NOMINATION OF NON-ELECTED MEMBER THIRD CHURCH REPRESENTATIVE

Name of Nominee: Dr Ivy Barclay BSc, PhD, FIFST, Dip, Th., FETQ

Church: Winton Place EU Congregational Church
Dundonald Road, Kilmarnock KA1 1EQ

Approximate Number of People who are members of the Church:

Winton Place EU Congregational Church	120
Cumnock Congregational Church	300

Each congregation is independent but are affiliated to the Congregational Federation in Scotland.

Information in Support of Nomination

Dr Barclay is a recognised Lay Preacher in the Congregational Federation (30,000 members) and is also Church President for Winton Place EU Congregational Church, Kilmarnock.

Before retirement Dr Barclay was a lecturer at the Scottish Agricultural College at Auchincruive.

Rev Ford, Minister of Winton Place EU Congregational Church, supports Dr Barclay's nomination. Rev Ford considers that Dr Barclay has the necessary experience that would assist her in what he considers as a very important position.

Rev Ford considers Dr Barclay to be sensitive to the problems that affect people within any situation, discreet with delicate information, and well able to communicate at all levels, and work within a team setting.

Dr Barclay continues to support Winton Place EU Church by her representation on various Committees within the courts of the wider church, bearing in mind that Scotland is now a multi-faith society where beliefs other than Christianity are firmly established. Rev Ford considers that Dr Barclay would never abuse her position to impose her views or to proselytise. Rev Ford has found her to be impartial, accessible and available to all in need.

From October 2003, she was the nominee of the Fellowship of Kilmarnock Churches and from November 2003 till May 2007 she served as the third Church Representative on the Education Committee. The Fellowship would wish her to continue (confirmed at meeting 27/6/2007).