

Forward Plan reference: Not applicable

Report title: Appointment of a Trustee to the Great and Little Leighs Educational Charity	
Report to: Cllr Tony Ball, Cabinet Member for Education Excellence, Life Long Learning and Employability	
Report author: Paul Turner, Director, Legal and Assurance	
Date: 1 March 2024	For: Decision
Enquiries to: Emma Hunter, Senior Democratic Services Officer, email: emma.hunter@essex.gov.uk telephone: 03330136601	
County Divisions affected: Broomfield and Writtle	

1. Everyone's Essex

- 1.1 Section 5 of the Scheme of the Great and Little Leighs Educational Charity permits the Council, as the Local Education Authority, to appoint two Nominated Trustees. A vacancy has arisen as Roger Berkely has chosen to stand down from the position of Nominated Trustee.
- 1.2 The report asks the Cabinet Member for Education Excellence, Life Long Learning and Employability to appoint Janis Waters to the position of Nominated Trustee for the Great and Little Leighs Educational Charity, in order to fill this vacancy.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Agree that with effect from 2359 hours on 11 March 2024, Janis Waters fills the vacancy of Nominated Trustee of the Great and Little Leighs Educational Charity.

3. Summary of issue

Appointments to bodies

- 3.1 The Council is asked to make a number of appointments to external (or independent) bodies. Sometimes this is a legal requirement, sometimes it is set out in the constitution of the body concerned and sometimes it is just at the request of the organisation concerned.
- 3.2 The frequency of any appointment depends on the organisation concerned but usually the Cabinet Member is able to make appointments at any time.
- 3.3 The recommended appointments are in accordance with the Council's rights to make appointments to the bodies concerned.

Great and Little Leighs Educational Charity

- 3.4 The Charity was formed in 1983. Its purpose is to provide grants to young people under the age of 25 years, living within Great and Little Leighs, for further education and training. It also provides grants to voluntary organisations working with young people in the area, and grants to local catchment area schools.
- 3.5 The Governing Document of the Charity outlines that the body of trustees shall consist of five individuals, being three nominative trustees and two co-opted trustees. Of the three nominative trustees, two are appointed by Essex County Council and one by the British and Foreign School Society.
- 3.6 A vacancy has arisen, as Roger Berkely has decided to stand down, effective from the end of the meeting scheduled for 11 March 2024. The Trust has requested that Janis Waters be appointed in his place. Janice is currently a Trustee Designate and has spent all of her working life in teaching. She retired in 2022 after being Headteacher of Great Leighs Primary School for 10 years.

4. Equality and Diversity implications

- 4.1 The Public Sector Equality Duty applies to the Council when it makes decisions. The duty requires us to have regard to the need to:
 - a) Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other behaviour prohibited by the Act. In summary, the Act makes discrimination etc on the grounds of a protected characteristic unlawful
 - b) Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - c) Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not including tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.
- 4.2 The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership, race, religion or belief, gender, and sexual orientation. The Act states that 'marriage and civil partnership' is not a relevant protected characteristic for (b) or (c) although it is relevant for (a).
- 4.3 In making this appointment the Cabinet Member will want to appoint the best people for the job whilst looking to reflect as far as possible the diversity of Essex.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 This report has no financial implications as Nominated Trustee is an unpaid position.

6. Legal Implications

6.1 This report relates to the Council exercising its legal power to appoint trustees to the charity.

7. Background Papers

Charity Commission Scheme.

I approve the above recommendations set out above for the reasons set out in the report.	Date
Councillor Tony Ball, Cabinet Member for Education Excellence, Life Long Learning and Employability	21.03.2024

In consultation with

Executive Director, Corporate Services (Section 151 Officer)	20 March 2024
Michael Neumann on behalf of Nicole Wood	
Director, Legal and Assurance (Monitoring Officer)	5 March 2024
Paul Turner	