

# Membership to Education Council

## Department of Education, Sport and Culture

### What will you do?

The Education Council is the body appointed by the Department of Education, Sport and Culture to be a conduit between the Department and the schools, on whose governing bodies they will sit. The Educational Council members will have a duty to ensure that the Department's policies and procedures are implemented and followed in the education of the children and also in the management of schools functions and facilities.

The Education Council members will bring any concerns or issues to the Department's attention where they feel clarification or intervention may be required. The Council members will, when requested by the Department, review, comment and feedback on policy and matters of stator education, or any report submitted to it by the Department.

The members of the Education Council are appointed under section 2 of the Education (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2009.

### What does that involve?

The Education Council will consist of up to 10 members drawn from across all parts of the Island and its main role is as follows:

- To discuss and advise the Department of Education, Sport and Culture (DESC) on any matter of educational policy, either of its own motion or when requested by the Department. The Council is required to do so in particular when it considers that any aspect of the educational provision made by the Department or a governing body is deficient.
- To discuss and inform the DESC of its views concerning the needs of the statutory system of public education – this may be collectively at meetings of the Council or as a sub-group of the Council, or however is felt most appropriate.
- To be the Department's representative on schools' governing bodies ensuring that information from the Department is passed to the school and from the school to the Department – as an Education Council Member they will form part of the governing body of a school, and possibly as the Chair. It is anticipated that two Education Council Members will sit on the governing bodies of each of the secondary schools and three of four primary schools.
- To receive and consider any reports submitted to it by the Department.
- When authorised by the Department, to formulate for consideration by the Department policies considering:-
  - a) Primary, secondary, continuing and higher education;
  - b) The education of pupils with special educational needs; and
  - c) The functions of the Department under section 36 of the Education Act 2001 (youth and community services).
- To be a panel member of an Appeals Process

## **Key Responsibilities include:**

- Making teaching appointments;
- Consulting, reviewing and challenging the Headteacher on implementation of the curriculum;
- Receiving, considering, advising and challenging around some financial affairs of the school budget;
- Gaining a knowledge and understanding of the school's improvement plan; holding the school's senior management to account in seeking to move the school on in terms of educational provision; in the development of the curriculum and in levels of achievement and pupil progress;
- Pupil suspensions for periods of greater than 10 days in any on term;
- Staff disciplinary and capability matters;
- Acting corporately in decision making.

## **Functions**

The Council's legal functions will be specified in new Education Council Regulations based on the Education Council Regulations 2009, a copy is included with this pack.

The Council makes appointments to the Religious Education Advisory Committee and trustee bodies in respect of some charities and endowments.

## **Proceedings**

The proceedings of the Education Council will be governed by such proceedings as Tynwald approves but will be based on the Education Council (Proceedings) Regulations 2009.

The Council will hold three ordinary meetings a year. The Education Council may also hold extraordinary meetings at any time:-

- i) At the request of the Department, or
- ii) On the written requisition of any six members of the Council addressed to the Chief Executive Officer.

In addition to their specific role as Council members, each member will serve on the governing body of one secondary school and possibly on the governing body of UCM Governing Body. Members will also serve on the governing body of at least one primary school and may be appointed, either by the Department or by the Council, to serve on a number of other bodies, including:

- The Religious Education Advisory Committee,
- St Mary's R C School Governors,
- St Thomas' C of E School Governors

## What do you need to be successful in this role?

<b>Attributes</b>	<b>Essential or Desirable</b>	<b>Method of Assessment</b> C: CV I: Interview
<b>Character</b>		
Hard-working, reliable and trustworthy	E	CV/I
Ability to work independently and as part of a team, to take an overview of schools and to see the strategic issues not only on a local basis but a national basis	E	CV/I
Demonstrates versatility and resilience and is able to adapt to meet different challenges	E	CV/I
Self-motivated, committed to continuous improvement, and is willing to learn and develop	E	CV/I
<b>Capability</b>		
An excellent communicator who will work effectively with other stakeholders	E	CV/I
Knowledge of the DESC, and the machinery of Government	D	CV
<b>Credibility</b>		
Professionalism and Credibility	E	CV/I
Working knowledge or ability to gain knowledge of relevant DESC policies and relevant legislation	E	CV/I
<b>Circumstances</b>		
Isle of Man Worker	D	CV
Full valid driving license and access to own vehicle	E	CV
Satisfactory DBS check within 3 months of being appointed as a member	E	I
Available to attend meetings during the day as well as in the evening	E	I