



**ADDITIONAL NON- VOTING MEMBER – CORPORATE PARENTING
SUB OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (OSC)**

Jane Robinson, Chief Executive

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval of an additional non-voting member being appointed to the Corporate Parenting Sub OSC.
2. The current membership of the Sub OSC comprises an elected member as a chair person and vice chair from the majority party and a further seven cross party elected members and four co-opted members.
3. Following a review of the membership arrangements by Families OSC (the parent committee) it was identified that it would strengthen the arrangements if the non-voting members of the sub-committee with knowledge and experience of services provided to Looked After young people and care leavers was increased. It was agreed that the non-voting membership be extended to include a representative of the Foster Care Association, a care leaver, a school governor, a representative of the Gateshead Housing Company and a representative from the third sector.
4. The arrangements were reviewed on 21 January 2016 by the Families OSC and whilst it has been possible to appoint a representative from the third sector it was agreed that it would be beneficial if the non-voting membership be extended to also include a co-opted member from the Families OSC to increase continuity and cement links between the Sub-Committee and the parent Committee.
5. It is proposed to formalise the arrangements for all the non-voting members by setting a specific term of office which will be for a period of 3 years from the date of appointment. In addition, work will continue to fully implement the original recommendations. It is also planned that a further review of the effectiveness of these arrangements be carried out by the Families OSC in 12 months' time.
6. The Cabinet has considered the facts and issues arising from the report including alternative options and took all relevant advice before formulating their recommendation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

7. It is recommended that Council agrees to a member of the Families OSC being appointed as an additional non-voting member of the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee to increase continuity and cement links between the Sub-Committee and the parent Committee