
NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

19 September 2018

Council

Title: Representation of the Roman Catholic Church on Cabinet

Purpose: To seek the appointment of Babs Mowat to replace Canon McManus as the representative of the Roman Catholic Church on Cabinet.

Recommendation: That the Council agrees to appoint Babs Mowat as the representative of the Roman Catholic Church on Cabinet when it considers Education business.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This reports notes the resignation of the Very Reverend Canon Matthew Canon McManus from Cabinet. It seeks to appoint Babs Mowat as the representative of the Roman Catholic Church on Cabinet when it considers educational business.

2. Background

- 2.1 In terms of section 124 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, where an authority appoint a committee with education functions, it must appoint three religious representatives, one of whom is to be a representative of the Roman Catholic Church. Such representative is nominated by the Scottish Hierarchy of the Church.
- 2.2 At the Council meeting on 17 May 2017, the Very Reverend Canon Matthew Canon McManus was appointed as the representative of the Roman Catholic Church on Cabinet when it considers educational business. The Right Reverend William Nolan, Bishop of Galloway, has now advised that Canon McManus, after serving for many years on the Council's Education Cabinet is stepping down. He has advised that the Church have nominated Babs Mowat as his replacement. As mentioned in the attached correspondence, Ms Mowat was previously head teacher of Mount Carmel Primary in Kilmarnock and is currently a member of the Diocese of Galloway.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 It is recommended that Council notes the resignation of the Very Reverend Canon Matthew Canon McManus from Cabinet, and agrees to appoint Babs Mowat as the representative of the Roman Catholic Church on Cabinet when it considers Education business.

4. Implications

Financial:	None arising from this report.
Human Resources:	None arising from this report.
Legal:	While in terms of section 124 the Council is to appoint religious representatives, the choice of nominee from the Church of Scotland or Roman Catholic Church is for those Churches to determine.
Equality: Children and Young People:	None arising from this report. The involvement of religious representatives in the education functions of Cabinet allows for religious involvement in decisions effecting the education of children.
Environmental & Sustainability:	None arising from this report.
Key Priorities:	Not applicable.
Community Benefits:	Not applicable

5. Consultation

5.1 No additional consultation required.



Elma Murray OBE
Chief Executive

For further information please contact Andrew Fraser, Head of Democratic Services on telephone number 01294 324125.

Background Papers

None



DIOCESE OF GALLOWAY, CANDIDA CASA, 8 CORSEHILL ROAD, AYR KA7 2ST

Telephone: 01292 266750

Email: bishop@gallowaydiocese.org.uk

09 August 2018

Mr Andrew A Fraser
Head of Democratic Services
North Ayrshire Council
Cunninghame House
IRVINE
KA12 8EE



Dear Mr Fraser,

Catholic Church Representation on North Ayrshire Council's Cabinet (Education)

After many years as the Catholic Church representative on NAC Cabinet (Education) Canon Matt McManus is stepping down.

I have asked Babs Mowat to replace him.

After many years working in education, Babs was head teacher of Mount Carmel Primary in Kilmarnock when she retired a few years ago. She is currently a member of the Diocese of Galloway's Education Strategy Committee.

Her contact details are:-

Babs Mowat

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Cumnock
[REDACTED]

Tel: (home) [REDACTED]

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Kind Regards,

✘ William Nolan
Bishop of Galloway

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Elma Murray
Cunninghame House, Irvine KA12 8EE
Tel: 01294 310000 Fax: 01294 324114
www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Your Ref: Our Ref: AF/jm

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15 August 2018



North Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath

Proud to be  Overall Council of the Year 2017

By email: bishop@gallowaydiocese.org.uk

The Most Reverend Bishop of Galloway
Diocese of Galloway
Candida Casa
8 Corsehill Road
AYR
KA7 2ST

Dear Bishop Nolan,

Catholic Church Representation on North Ayrshire Council's Cabinet (Education)

Thank you for your letter of 9 August 2018 in relation to the above.

I really appreciate you taking the time to write to me. However it is very disappointing that you are unable to appoint a Lay Member who resides in the North Ayrshire area.

The Council's Cabinet (Education) will meet on the following dates during 2018/19:

- Tuesday 2 October 2018 – 2.30 – 4.30 p.m.
- Tuesday 11 December 2018 - 2.30 – 4.30 p.m.
- Tuesday 15 January 2019 - 2.30 – 4.30 p.m.
- Tuesday 12 March 2019 - 2.30 – 4.30 p.m.
- Tuesday 14 May 2019 - 2.30 – 4.30 p.m.
- Tuesday 27 August 2019 - 2.30 – 4.30 p.m.
- Tuesday 29 October 2019 - 2.30 – 4.30 p.m.

I would be grateful if you would please consider appointing a member who resides in North Ayrshire to the Council's Cabinet (Education).

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Fraser
Head of Democratic Services



DIOCESE OF GALLOWAY, CANDIDA CASA, 8 CORSEHILL ROAD, AYR KA7 2ST

Telephone: 01292 266750

Email: bishop@gallowaydiocese.org.uk

Your Ref. AF/jm

16 August 2018

Mr Andrew A Fraser
Head of Democratic Services
North Ayrshire Council
Cunninghame House
IRVINE
KA12 8EE

Dear Mr Fraser,

Catholic Church Representation on North Ayrshire Council's Cabinet (Education)

Thank you for your letter expressing reservations that the Church representative is not resident in the local authority area.

This is not uncommon in Scotland. Indeed in Galloway Diocese, which encompasses four local authority areas, not all representatives are appointed to the authorities in which they reside.

The Church representative's function is to represent me and the Diocese and to give a professional and accurate account of the Church's view on appropriate matters. All Church representatives meet with me and my educational advisors on a regular basis to keep me and the whole Diocese informed of the council proceedings. I am confident that Babs Mowat will be enthusiastic and competent in this role, which is why she is my preferred representative at this time.

I will of course take your concerns into account in any future appointments.

Kind regards,

✱ William Nolan
Bishop of Galloway

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Elma Murray
Cunninghame House, Irvine KA12 8EE
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Your Ref: Our Ref: AF/jm

If telephoning please call: Andrew Fraser on ☎ (01294) 324125
Email: andrewfraser@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

29 August 2018

By email: bishop@gallowaydiocese.org.uk

The Most Reverend Bishop of Galloway
Diocese of Galloway
Candida Casa
8 Corsehill Road
AYR
KA7 2ST

Dear Bishop Nolan,

Catholic Church Representation on North Ayrshire Council's Cabinet (Education)

Dear Bishop Nolan

Thank you for your prompt response of 16 August 2018, and your explanation of Ms Mowat's role in representing you and the Diocese.

I fully accept that the decision on who to appoint is one for the Church and I can confirm that I will ask Council at its meeting on 19 September 2018 to appoint her to Cabinet. Thereafter Ms Mowat can be welcomed to Cabinet on 2 October 2018.

My concern was that previous Church nominees have been an integral part of the North Ayrshire community, with a wide knowledge of issues facing it, the role of partners etc. This understanding has enabled them to make a wide contribution to the work of the Committee, covering ecumenical matters, as well as the position of the Church. The Cabinet have found this helpful.

While I note that that Ms. Mowat will be able to meet with you and your educational advisors on a regular basis, our concern was that, regardless of how able, her role could be more restricted. Presumably she will also be liaising with Church representatives in North Ayrshire and Headteachers of North Ayrshire schools?

If we can help to facilitate the latter, please do not hesitate to ask

Yours sincerely

Andrew Fraser
Head of Democratic Services