

## East Lothian Council

**FOI Ref: 2018/261(483126)**

***Please supply the names, religious organisation represented, and date of original appointment of the representatives of religion on your Education Committee or, if you do not have an Education Committee as such, on the committee that oversees your Council's school system.***

- Ms Elizabeth Malcolm, Church of Scotland;
- The Catholic Church representative resigned on 8 January 2018 and we await notice of their replacement from the Archdiocese of St. Andrews and Edinburgh;
- Mr Stephen Bunyan, Scottish Episcopal Church.

***Please state whether these individuals have the right to vote in this Committee.***

Yes, they have the right to vote in this committee.

***Are the representatives of religion invited to sit on any other committees or council bodies? If so, please give details, including details of any voting rights.***

There are no representatives of religion on other committees, sub committees or associated committees of the Council.

***For each of these individuals, please state how they were appointed. If appointment was not through nomination by the Catholic Church or the Church of Scotland, please state:***

***How was this person selected, and by whom?***

Mr Bunyan was nominated by St Anne's Scottish Episcopal Church in Dunbar. The nomination included a statement as to why Mr Bunyan was considered worthy of selection. His nomination was considered and approved by the Council's Director of Education in consultation with the Convener of the Education Committee.

***How was the position advertised, and what other methods were used to notify potential applicants?***

The position was advertised in the East Lothian News and the East Lothian Courier newspapers. No responses were received. The Council then approached the Scottish Episcopal Church to invite them to make a nomination.

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***What were the criteria used to select among candidates?***

In the advertisement, the nominating church or denominational body was asked to provide the full name and address of any nominees along with a statement as to why the nominees were regarded as worthy of selection.

***Are any of the positions for representatives of religion currently vacant? If so, how long have they been vacant, and what action is in progress to fill the vacancy?***

The Catholic Church representative resigned on 8 January 2018 and we await notice of their replacement from the Archdiocese of St. Andrews and Edinburgh. Selection of a replacement is a matter for the Catholic Church.

Finally, it may help to explain that Freedom of Information legislation only applies to information which is held or recorded by a public authority. It does not apply to views, opinions, intentions or questions which simply require a yes/no answer. In view of this, some of the questions asked are not technically valid for the purposes of this legislation as they are not requests for specific recorded information that ELC may or may not hold.

In order to assist you, however, colleagues have addressed the questions posed to the best of their knowledge. For future reference, a link to the "Tips for Requesters" page of the Scottish Information Commissioner's website has been provided which you may find useful:

<http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/YourRights/Tipsforrequesters.aspx>