



PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS 2005

- THE COUNCIL FOR CATHOLIC MAINTAINED SCHOOLS (CCMS)
- DIOCESAN EDUCATION COMMITTEES (DECs)

The Department of Education invites applications for Departmental membership of the Council for Catholic Maintained Schools (CCMS) and/or its Diocesan Education Committees (DECs). New members will be appointed from November 2005 and are scheduled to serve until 2009. However, the outcome of the Review of Public Administration might affect the length of the appointment actually served. Members are unpaid but are eligible for an attendance allowance and the payment of travel and subsistence - details can be obtained from the Department or from CCMS.

THE COUNCIL

The Council was formally established under the Education Reform (NI) Order 1989 (the 1989 Order) with effect from 1 April 1990. Its primary purpose is the provision of an upper tier of management for the Catholic Maintained Sector with the primary objective of raising standards in Catholic Maintained Schools.

DIOCESAN EDUCATION COMMITTEES

The Council also has a Diocesan dimension in respect of its policies and their implementation and the 1989 Order established a Diocesan Education Committee in each of the Dioceses. The Diocesan Education Committees are supported by a team of professional officers who share a range of policy and management responsibilities.

MEMBERSHIP

There are 36 members in the CCMS and 74 members in total on the 5 DECs. Membership is drawn from the Trustees of Catholic Maintained schools and their nominees, teachers' and parents' representatives and DE nominations. There are 8 DE appointed members on CCMS and 16 members on the DECs although, at present, in both cases places for new members will be limited as a number of existing members will be eligible for re-appointment. While those involved in education will be strongly represented in the Council and the committees, the Department aims to draw its representatives from a wide range of interests/backgrounds to include those involved in commerce and industry.

SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

Although no formal qualifications are required, those seeking appointment must be able to demonstrate that they meet the following five essential criteria:

- **Committing to the role** – Having an informed interest and understanding of the working environment in which they are making a contribution;
- **Making an impact with others** – Developing and maintaining cooperative working relationships to achieve high standards of service and results;
- **Thinking strategically** – Making a significant contribution to the strategic direction of the organisation;
- **Analytical thinking** – Experience of making decisions and solving problems in a team and organisational environment; and
- **Learning and self-development** – Taking personal responsibility to further develop as a member.

It would also be desirable for those applying to:

- Have experience (paid or unpaid) in industry or commerce and/or involvement in community relations;
- Have a knowledge of the principles of corporate governance and risk management; and
- For those applying for DEC positions – live in, work in, or have significant connections with the local area served by the DEC.

Selection for appointments will involve an interview, and the Department may decide to interview only those applicants who appear from the information available to be the most suitable. The final decision on appointments will rest with the Minister responsible for Education.

HOW TO APPLY

Further information, including full details of membership and the work of CCMS and the DECs, and an application form can be obtained from:

Department of Education
Schools Administration Branch - CCMS Section
Rathgael House, Balloo Road, BANGOR BT19 7PR

Telephone: 028 9127 9215
E-mail: Pauline.wisely@deni.gov.uk

This material can be provided in other formats on request.

Completed application forms must be returned to the Department of Education to arrive not later than 5.00 pm on Friday, 22 July 2005. Late applications will not be accepted.

The Department of Education is committed to the principles of public appointments based on merit with independent assessment, openness and transparency of process. The Department is committed to providing equality of opportunity for all individuals. Expressions of interest are welcomed regardless of gender, age, marital status, disability, religion, ethnic origin, political opinion, sexual orientation or whether or not you have dependents. Women and those of ethnic origin are currently under-represented at all levels in bodies sponsored by the Department and nominations from these groups would be particularly welcome.

