

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Director of Education
Mr. Alex Tear MA(Ed) (Hons)

26th September 2016

Dear Colleague

Rochester Diocesan Board of Education – Proposal to revise the Articles of Association

I write on behalf of the Rochester Diocesan Board of Education (RDBE) to inform you of some proposed changes to the Articles of Association of the RDBE which include changes to the Board's constitution.

Over the last six months, the Diocesan Board of Education has been consulting within the diocese with the various bodies that appoint Church members to the Board to reduce the number of Trustees serving on the Board. More details of the consultation process can be found on the RDBE's website here:

<http://www.rdbe.org.uk/about-us/consultation-on-proposals-to-re-constitute-the-dbe>

The Diocesan Board of Education believes that the proposed new constitution will allow it to respond more quickly to changes in national education policy including the academy agenda and at the same time will allow the Diocesan Board of Education to draw on the specific skills and expertise of co-opted members.

The proposals reduce the number of members of the Diocesan Board of Education appointed by Deanery Synods from seventeen to six, with two additional members appointed by the Diocesan Bishop.

As part of these changes, the four Local Authorities would be asked to nominate a representative to attend Board meetings however these representatives would not be eligible to vote in Board meetings.

The Diocese values the contribution of its Local Authority partners as a key stakeholder in its Church of England schools and wishes to continue its close relationship with Local Authority representatives and officers.

Enclosed with this letter is a summary of the changes, the draft revised articles (sent to the Charity Commission) and a proforma asking for the consent and approval of the three Local Authorities of Bexley, Bromley and Kent who are appointing bodies to the Board of Education.

I would ask that you read the proposals carefully and indicate your approval to the revised articles of association in order that the proposed re-constitution can be sent to the Secretary of State for Education for final approval.

Yours sincerely,



Alex Tear - Director of Education

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