

**EDUCATION, CHILDREN & FAMILIES SELECT COMMITTEE**  
**17<sup>th</sup> October 2017**

**WRITTEN QUESTIONS TO THE EDUCATION, CHILDREN & FAMILIES  
PORTFOLIO HOLDER**

**Written Question to the Education, Children & Families Portfolio Holder  
received from Ms Rhian Kanat**

- 1) Does the Portfolio Holder know why the Governing Body of St Olaves is blocking the Council nominated representative to the Board of Governors, who is that nominee and what steps are being taken to resolve this?

**Reply:**

*The Local Authority put forward a nomination of one of its elected members to the Governing Body of the School. The Board of Governors are responsible for appointing Governors. Unfortunately, the LA was informed on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2017 that its nomination was not accepted by the board for reasons unknown to the LA. We asked the Governing Body to explain why the LA's nomination was refused and a response to this was received on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2017 from the Chief Executive and Clerk to The Governors setting out the qualities, skills and experience required from a LA Governor as set out below:*

*The qualities which the GB requires are:*

- 1. An interest in secondary education and St Olave's School in particular*
- 2. The time to commit to meetings (Governing Body and committee), visits to the school (including Link Governor visits) and to contribute to and read papers for meetings*
- 3. A willingness to take on specific governor responsibilities to support other governors (eg to act as governor overseeing governor training)*
- 4. A commitment to collective responsibility for decisions taken by the Board and to act in the best interests of the school at all times*
- 5. A recognition of the Christian ethos of the school and its Church of England Voluntary Aided status*

*The skills and experience which would be particularly useful:*

- 1. An understanding and experience of the local and national policy framework for secondary education*
- 2. The GB is seeking to expand its financial skills base*

*The Governing Body would always welcome nominations from a wider diversity of background.*

*The Local Authority is considering its response and will either re-nominate Cllr Wells or put forward another nomination to the school. The newly appointed Chairman of the Governing Body is very keen to have an elected member on its Governing body as soon as possible.*