

Decision Maker: **SCHOOLS FORUM**

Date: **4th November 2021**

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Executive Non-Key

Title: **CONSTITUTION OF THE SCHOOLS FORUM**

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Chief Officer: Janet Bailey, Executive Director of Children's Services

Ward: (All Wards);

1. Reason for report

1.1 This report provides an overview of the representation on the Schools Forum.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

2.1 The Schools Forum are requested to make any comment on the report and the appendices before final submission to the CEF PDS for approval.

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Not Applicable
 2. BBB Priority: Health and Integration
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Not Applicable:
 2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable:
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Not applicable
 4. Total current budget for this head: n/a
 5. Source of funding: Not applicable
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Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): N/A
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: N/A
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Statutory Requirement
 2. Call-in: Applicable
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Customer Impact

1. N/A
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Not Applicable
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments:

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 As part of the constitution and terms of reference, the constitution of the Schools Forum is regularly reviewed to reflect any changes to the make up of the Forum in terms of member representation.
- 3.2 The Constitution was last fundamentally reviewed in September 2012 when Department for Education (DfE) introduced new Schools Forum regulations. Since this point there have been no further major DfE regulations affecting Schools Forums.
- 3.3 The last review to make minor changes was in November 2020
- 3.4 The Constitution will be agreed at the next CEF PDS where any comments from the Forum will be considered.

4. MEMBERSHIP OF THE FORUM

Schools Membership

- 4.1 Representation on the Schools element of the Forum is derived in the main from pupil numbers. Currently there are fifteen members made up of Heads and Governors. Current pupil numbers in each sector (primary/secondary/special, etc) have not changed significantly in terms of ratios between each area.
- 4.2 However, there is no longer a Maintained PRU, therefore the membership of the Forum should cease.
- 4.3 It is proposed that there is a reduction of one maintained PRU head/governor (down to zero), the position is currently vacant.
- 4.4 Overall membership will reduce to fourteen.

Non Schools Membership

- 4.5 Current representation in the non-schools element of the Forum is five. It is recommended that this remains the same.
- 4.6 A summary of the new constitution is below.

CONSTITUTION

Membership

OLD

NEW

SCHOOLS

Special Maintained school representative governor/head	1	1
Special Academy school representative governor/head	1	1
PRU Academy head/governor	1	1
Primary Academy head representative	2	2
Primary Academy governor representative	3	3
Primary Maintained head representative	1	1
Secondary Maintained head/governor representative	1	1
Secondary Academy head representative	2	2
Secondary Academy governor representative	2	2
	<u>14</u>	<u>14</u>

NON SCHOOLS

Early year provider (PVI)	1	1
14-19 partnership**	1	1
Diocese CofE**	1	1
Diocese Catholic**	1	1
Joint Teacher Liaison**	1	1
	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>

OTHER NON- VOTING ATTENDEES

Portfolio Holder/Portfolio Holder Assistant	1	1
Director of Education/Schools	1	1
Head of Finance	1	1
Head of Schools Finance Support	1	1
Clerk of the Forum	1	1
	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>

** These members cannot vote on matters relating to the funding formulae to be used by the Local Authority

- 4.7 As there has been no material change in terms of the number of pupils in the different categories then it is proposed not to make any alterations to the makeup of the Forum.

Vacancies

- 4.8 Assuming the new constitutional arrangements are agreed, there are currently four vacancies on the Forum as follows:-

1 Secondary Academy Governor
 1 Special Maintained Head/Governor
 1 Primary Academy Head
 1 Primary Academy Governor

- 4.9 As per the terms of reference the relevant group will be asked to nominate a representative using a democratic process. The Council will assist where necessary. Where this is not possible, the Council will approach the relevant group for nominations.

5. TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE FORUM

- 5.1 The terms of reference are largely unchanged.
- 5.2 Terms of reference are attached in Appendix 1. The latest DfE Forums good practise guide and regulations, powers and responsibilities and structure are contained in Appendix 2.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Financial Implications Legal Implications Policy Implications Personnel Implications Customer Implications
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	N/A

