

Report to Haringey Schools Forum –6th July 2023

Report Status

For information/note
For consultation & views
For decision

Report Title: Schools Forum Membership

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Purpose:

1. To update members of Schools Forum Membership and vacancy of Chair in October 2023.

Recommendations:

1. To note and comment in advance of the October meeting of a vacancy of Chair of Schools Forum for 2023/24 academic year and approve proposal.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Schools Forum Regulations 2012 govern the composition, constitution and procedures of Schools Forums and the use of the Operational and Good Practice Guide provides guidance in relation to matters or advice and information on operation of Schools Forums.
- 1.2 The Schools Forums Regulations provide a framework for the appointment of Members, but comments on allowing a considerable degree of discretion in order to accommodate local priorities and practice.
- 1.3 In accordance with Haringey School Forum Constitution we are advising advance notice to members ..., *no less than 4 months...*, of the vacancy for the Chair of School Forum.
- 1.4 It is considered that the overarching responsibility of the local authority is to ensure Schools Forum operate effectively and efficiently but work collaboratively with representatives of forum and officers to ensure Children and Young People in Haringey are at the very heart of every decision or strategy proposed, agreed and adopted.

2. Membership

- 2.1 Haringey Schools Forum current membership consists of 38 members made up of 24 maintained school members, 8 academy members and 6 non schools' members. The proposal will be 7 non schools' members.
- 2.2 In accordance with the Haringey Schools Forum Constitution, we are notifying Schools Forum, no less than 4 months before the Schools Forum's member term of office expires, and that a re-election process is required to take place.
- 2.3 Membership and terms of office for members is usually discussed and agreed at October meetings and this report is to strategically prepare in advance due to the importance of securing a competent Chair for the start of the new school year.
- 2.4 The current Chair of Schools Forum was previously appointed at the meeting 14 July 2022, and is also a Primary Headteacher member of the Forum, however his school headship concludes at the end of this academic year.

3 Proposal

- 3.1 The current Chair of Schools Forum has been an asset for the efficient and effective operation of Schools Forum and has advised the Local Authority of his continued interest and support if no other member notifies the clerk of their wishes to be nominated as Chair.
- 3.2 Due to the unusual nature of this renewal of membership and re-election because of his headship ceasing but, as part of succession planning, the Local Authority made direct contact with the Department of Education (DfE) to confirm if the re-appointment would be acceptable in accordance with Schools Forum Regulations 2012.
- 3.3 The DfE response reference CI-0197756 dated 25th April 2023, stated ..., *this is permissible if members agree...*, of the renewal of the existing Chair to be

reappointed as Chair of Schools Forum for another term of office i.e., 2023/24 for 12 months with effect from October 2023.

3.4 After consulting with the DfE on the clarity on re-appointment, and planning for the new school year, it is our suggestion subject to Schools Forum approval and no other interested parties on reinstatement of the current Chair for another term of office.

Recommendation (i): Schools Forum are asked to:

- Comment on the Schools Forum membership and vacancy of Chair from October 2023.
- Note the comment and advice from the DfE on reappointment.
- Approve reappointment of existing Chair for another term of office with effect from new school year if no other member shows interest.