

Agenda Item 11

Haringey Council

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The Children and Young People's Service

Report to Haringey Schools Forum – 1st July 2010

Report Title: Arrangements for the Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair(s) of the Schools Forum.

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Purpose: To report on the proposed arrangements for electing the Chair and Vice-Chair(s) of the Forum.

Recommendations:

a. That members approve the proposed arrangements.

1. Background.

- 1.1. The Schools Forums (England) Regulations 2010 require Local Authorities to establish a local Schools Forum. The Regulations also set out the legal framework within which Forums must operate. The 2010 Regulations revoke and replace the Schools Forums (England) Regulations 2002 and their subsequent amendments.
- 1.2. The Regulations allow School Forums to establish their own arrangements within the overall national framework. Haringey's Schools Forum has set up a Working Party (WP) to look at its constitution and procedures; an update on the work of the group is included in Agenda Item 12.
- 1.3. The WP has largely completed its review and will recommend a revised constitution to the Forum at its September meeting. Section 2 below is consistent with that part of the revised constitution covering the procedure for electing the Chair and Vice-Chair(s). Members are asked to agree this amendment ahead of considering the main constitution so that the positions can be filled at the start of the Forum's meeting in September.

2. Proposed Arrangements for the Election of Chair and Vice-Chair(s) of the Forum.

- 2.1. At the meeting on 23rd September 2010 and subsequently at the first meeting of a newly appointed Forum, the Clerk will invite nominations for the election of a Chair/ Vice-Chair(s) of the School Forum (no prior requests will be made). The Chair and Vice-Chair(s) must be a voting member, except that an elected member or officer of the authority cannot be elected as the Chair/ Vice-Chair(s). All nominations must be proposed and seconded by a voting member of the Forum.
- 2.2. The term of office for the Chair/ Vice-Chair(s) will be the duration of the Forum. The Forum will agree the number of Vice-Chairs that it wishes to appoint.
- 2.3. Elections for the Chair/ Vice-Chair(s) will be carried out by way of secret vote. All voting members will have a vote, including those nominated for either position(s). All those nominated will be given the opportunity to speak briefly in support of their nomination.
- 2.4. The Chair/ Vice-Chair(s) will be elected at a quorate meeting of the Forum. Where a substantive Chair has not been elected the Forum will elect, from its qualifying membership, a Chair to preside over that meeting of the Forum. A Chair elected for a single meeting will hold the role of Chair until the start of the next meeting. A Chair elected for a single meeting may be appointed through a seconded proposal followed by a majority show of hands in favour of the proposed candidate.

2.5. All members of the Forum have a single vote in electing the Chair/ Vice-Chair(s). The Chair/ Vice-Chair(s) will be elected on a simple majority. In the event of a tie between two members in the election of the Chair, the Clerk will determine the outcome by the toss of a coin. In the event of more than two nominations for Chair/ Vice-Chair(s) achieving equal numbers of votes the Clerk will draw the successful candidates name from a 'hat' containing the names of all tied candidates.

3. Recommendations.

a. That members approve the proposed arrangements.