



**Haringey** Council

**The Children and Young People's Service**

**Report to Haringey Schools Forum – 13 September 2012**

**Agenda Item**

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**Report Status**

For information/note   
For consultation & views   
For decision

**Report Title: Membership and Constitution of the Schools Forum**

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**Purpose: To provide an update on new membership and changes to the Constitution.**

**Recommendations:**

1. That the new members as identified be appointed to the Forum for the period 2012-15 in accordance with the Constitution.
2. That the amended Constitution set out in Appendix A be agreed, subject to final confirmation of the regulations.
3. That it be noted that a ballot has been organised in respect of the place on the Forum for the PVI sector.
4. To agree to the appointment of the Head of Alternative Provision as the Pupil Support Centre representative from October 2012, subject to feedback from the DfE.
5. That the position regarding Academy representation be noted and reviewed if an imbalance in representation occurs.

Report

**1. Schools Forum Regulations 2012**

- 1.1.1 The draft Schools Forum Regulations 2012 are expected to come into force in early October 2012 and every Authority is expected to have

their Schools Forums constituted in accordance with the regulations by 1 October.

1.2 The main changes from 2013/14 are :-

1. The removal of the requirement to have a minimum of 15 people on a Forum.
2. A restriction of other local authority attendees from participating in meetings unless they are a relevant Lead Member, Director of Children's Services (or their representative), Chief Finance Officer (or their representative), or are providing specific financial or technical advice (including presenting a paper to the Forum) (*regulation 8(3)*).
3. A restriction on the voting arrangements by allowing only schools and Academy members (and the private, voluntary and independent sector - PVI members) to vote on the funding formulae (*regulation 8(11)*). Additionally, draft regulation 8(12) covers items that have been announced which will be subject to de-delegation. These will be specified in the finance regulations and only the relevant maintained school members of the forum will be able to vote.
4. A requirement for local authorities to publish Forum papers, minutes and decisions promptly on their websites (*regulation 8(13)*).
5. A requirement for Forums to hold public meetings, as is the case with other Council Committees (*regulation 8(1)*).

## **2. Review of the Constitution**

2.1.1 The Forum at its last meeting agreed that the constitution be amended where necessary to ensure that it is compliant with the draft School's Forums (England) Regulation 2012. The proposed revised constitution is set out in the Appendix.

2.1.2 In summary the draft regulations cover:-

- Regulations 3 to 8 provide for the constitution of a schools forum, including the election of schools members, the election or selection of Academies members and the appointment of non-schools members to the schools forum, their meetings and proceedings.
- Regulations 9 to 11 require the authority to consult their schools forum before entering into certain types of contract and annually in relation to a range of financial issues and the governing bodies of schools maintained by them to be informed of any such consultation.

- Regulations 12 and 13 require the authority to pay the expenses of their schools forum out of the schools budget and the reasonable expenses of its members

2.1.3 As part of other proposed funding changes there is a removal of the requirement for local authorities to consult schools forums annually about arrangements for free school meals and insurance as these are to be allocated through the formula in future.

### 3. Membership of Forum

3.1.1 Subject to the requirements of the regulations an Authority may determine the size and composition of the Forum and the Forum members' term of office.

3.1.2 Following the previous meeting the Clerk wrote to the agreed nominating organisations seeking representatives to serve on the Forum for the ensuing three years. The process for election to the places according to the Constitution is that each nominating organisation will be responsible for determining the method by which they elect and/or nominate their representatives, substitutes and for the filling of any vacancies that may arise.

3.1.3 Accordingly the following nominations have been received to serve on the Forum for a three year period:-

Schools' Block			
Group	No	Headteachers	Governors
Primary – Community	7	Evelyn Pittman, Tetherdown Cal Shaw, Chestnuts Fran Hargrove, St Mary's Maxine Pattison, Ferry Lane Will Wawn, Bounds Green Julie D'Abreu, Devonshire Hill Linda Sarr, St Ann's	Laura Butterfield, Coldfall Louis Fisher, Earlsmead Asher Jacobsberg, Welbourne Miriam Ridge Our Lady of Muswell Jan Smosarski, Bruce Grove Sandra Carr, St John Vianney Vacancy

Children's Centre	1	Val Buckett, Pembury House Nursery and Children's Centre	Melian Mansfield, Pembury House Nursery and Children's Centre
Secondary – Community	4	Tony Hartney, Gladesmore Alex Atherton, Park View Academy Simon Garrill, Heartlands Monica Duncan ,NPCS (substitute Mike Claydon)	Imogen Pennell, Highgate Wood Liz Singleton Northumbelrland PK Marianne McCarthy, Heartlands Vacancy
Special Academies	1 2	Martin Doyle, Moselle Paul Sutton, Greig City Academy Michael McKenzie, Alexandra Park	Vik Seeborun, The Vale
Pupil Support Centre (from October 2012)	1	Heather Johnson, Head of Alternative Provision	

Non-Schools' Block		
Appointing Body	No	Forum Members
Faiths Representative	1	Mark Rowland, St Thomas More
Haringey Teachers' Panel	1	Julie Davies, Haringey Teachers' Panel
Support Staff Trade Unions	1	Pat Foward, Unison
14-19 Partnership Board	1	June Jarrett, Haringey Sixth Form Centre
LBH Councillor	1	Zena Brabazon
Private, Voluntary and Independent Early Years Settings	1	Susan Tutor-Hart/ Rob Danks

Observers	Named Person
Cabinet Member for Children and Young People Education Funding Agency	Cllr Ann Waters

## Academies

3.1.4 Previously the Forum had agreed that, with regard to Academy representation the two secondary school academies would be invited

to submit nominations to the Forum. This was on the basis that primary schools, secondary schools and Academies must be broadly proportionately represented on the forum, having regard to the total number of pupils registered at them. In addition the number of members representing schools in a particular school category must be broadly proportionate to the total number of schools in that category when compared with the total number of schools maintained by the authority. It had therefore been previously agreed that there should be two members on the Forum representing the Academy sector. Although currently both of the Academy members are from the secondary phase, the Forum at its last meeting agreed that in future, for example, the academies representation could also be from the primary phase and also the faith representative could be from primary. It was also agreed that the matter would be looked at again when it was clear that there was imbalance occurring in the representation.

### Pupil Support Centre

3.1.5 In order to reflect the introduction of the receipt of delegated budgets from April 2013, the new regulations include a representative of pupil referral units as a separate group among schools members. At the previous meeting it was noted that the additional PSC representative would come into effect with the new requirements from early October.

3.1.6 Heather Johnson, Head of Alternative Provision has expressed her wish to be appointed as the representative to the Forum. Officers are currently seeking confirmation from the DfE that the appointment of a local authority officer to this place is acceptable.

### Education Funding Agency

3.1.7 The Education Funding Agency (EFA) are to be given an observer status at Forum meetings and will have the right to participate in discussions. According to the EFA this will enable them to support the local process and to provide a national perspective. An EFA representative will not attend every meeting but may want to see how the Forum is working, and could be asked to attend specific meetings if members thought it helpful or if there were any concerns about the running or composition of the forum.

3.1.8 The EFA's role is to be impartial and ensure local authorities are compliant with the requirements of the new system and are behaving reasonably. They will not investigate general representations from individual schools that have lost funding under the new formula arrangements. What they will investigate is complaints from maintained schools or Academies that suggest they will be unreasonably funded as a result of the local authority not applying an allowable formula factor or not requesting an exceptional factor. They will also monitor the impact of the new formulae on different types of schools to inform future funding policy.

## **Early Years – Private Voluntary and independent sector**

3.1.9 Two nominations have been received for the current one place on the Forum specifically for this sector. The nominations are from Susan Tutor- Hart from Fortis Green Nursery and Rob Danks from Keiki Nursery. Consequently a ballot is being organised to determine the allocation to this place. Any representatives from the PVI sector are entitled, together with the members from the Schools block, to vote on the funding formula.