
Schools' Forum Membership and Constitution from September 2017

Report being considered by: Schools Forum
On: 17 July 2017
Report Author: Jessica Bailiss
Item for: Decision **By:** All Forum Members

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To review and where necessary update the membership and Constitution of the Schools Forum.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 To approve the membership and Constitution of the Schools Forum from September 2017.

Will the recommendation require the matter to be referred to the Council or the Executive for final determination?	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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3. Introduction/Background

- 3.1 The Schools' Forum is required to review its membership and constitution annually. The last change made to the constitution was in 2012 and there has since been no legislative changes requiring a change to our current practice. The current constitution complies with The Schools Forums (England) Regulations 2012. The membership however does need to be reviewed to see if the split based on pupil numbers is still correct or needs to be changed.
- 3.2 The current rules in respect to School Forum membership are as follows:
- (1) The need to have full representation for the various types of school with the number of members representing each being broadly proportionate to the number of pupils in each phase. This is to ensure debate within the Schools' Forum is balanced and representative.
 - (2) There is no minimum or maximum number of members, but non school members must not make up more than one third of the total membership. However, care should be taken to keep the Schools Forum to a reasonable size to ensure that it does not become too unwieldy.
- 3.3 The current breakdown in pupil numbers between the three main groups is as follows (*Pupil numbers include Nursery and Sixth Form*):

TABLE 1	Pupil Numbers (Jan 16 census)		Pupil Numbers (Jan 17 census)	
	Number	%	Number	%
Primary Schools	*(64) 13,096	52%	(63) 12, 930	52%
Secondary Schools	(4) 4,240	17%	(3) 3,861	15%
Academy Schools	(8) 7,757	31%	(10) 8,308	33%
TOTAL	25, 093	100%	25, 099	100%

(*The number of schools in each sector is shown in brackets)

3.4 Data shows that overall the percentage of pupils in each sector has remained broadly the same. There has been a small increase in the number of academy schools and this is reflected in the distribution of pupils.

3.5 The current membership of the Schools' Forum is organised as follows:

TABLE 3					
School Members	Heads	Governors	Other	Total	
	Number	Number	Number	Number	%
Primary	4	3	1	8	50%
Secondary	2	1	0	3	19%
Academies	3	2	0	5	31%
	9	6	1	16	100%
Other School Members					
Nursery Schools	1			1	
Special Schools	1			1	
PRUs	1			1	
Non School Members					
RC Diocese			1	1	
C of E Diocese			1	1	
Early Years PVI			1	1	
Trade Union			1	1	
Non School Post 16			1	1	
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	12	6	6	24	
Proportion of School Members (minimum must be 66.7%)				79.17%	

3.6 Elected councillors join the Forum on the basis of being observers with speaking but not voting rights.

3.7 It is not proposed to make any changes to the structure of the membership.

4. Membership – end of term

4.1 The term of office for members of the Forum is three years or until the position by virtue of which they are eligible for Forum membership comes to an end, whichever is the sooner.

4.2 The following Forum members will be coming to the end of their terms in 2017:

- Graham Spellman – July 2017 (confirmed: will continue for a further term)
- Sheilagh Peacock – July 2017 (confirmed: will not continue past July 2017)
- Chris Prosser – October 2017

5. Constitution

5.1 Forum members are invited to suggest any changes which they deem necessary or desirable.

6. Proposals

6.1 There have been no changes to the Regulations or Operational Guidance for the Schools Forum so it is not proposed to make any changes to the Constitution.

7. Conclusion

7.1 The Schools Forum is invited to approve the membership and the Constitution for the Schools Forum from September 2017.

8. Consultation and Engagement

8.1 Claire White, Schools Finance Manager, has been consulted in the preparation of this report.

9. Appendices

9.1 Appendix A: Membership of the Schools Forum as at July 2017

9.2 Appendix B: Constitution of the Schools Forum