

Individual Decision

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| Title of Report: | Appointment of Local Authority Governors | | |
| Report to be considered by: | Cllr. Graham Pask | on: | Thursday 17 August 2006 |
| Forward Plan Ref: | ID1249 | | |

Purpose of Report: To consider the appointment of two Local Authority governors to the new federated school of Chaddleworth St. Andrews and Shefford C.E. Primary schools.

Recommended Action: To appoint the nominated governors.

Reason for decision to be taken: To ensure continuity of membership of governing body.

List of other options considered: To refuse appointment of nominees.

Key background documentation:

- Individual nomination forms

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| Portfolio Member: | Councillor Graham Pask |
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Contact Officer Details

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Supporting Information

1. Background

The Council, as a Local Authority (LA), has a duty to appoint a specified number of LA governors to the governing body of each maintained school. The term of office is for four years. Where a governor leaves during the term of office, a new governor will be appointed for a four year term of office running from the date of appointment. Existing governors are asked if they wish to continue for a further term of office.

On 1st September 2006 Chaddleworth St. Andrews C.E. Primary School and Shefford C.E. Primary School are federating together under one governing body. Regulations state that all current governors at those schools, if wishing to serve on the new governing body, must be re-appointed or re-elected from that date.

There are two LA governors currently serving terms of office in the individual schools who need to be re-appointed as LA governors for the new federated school from 1st September 2006.

The date for the next Area Forum (where these appointments are normally considered) is in October, but it is important that these governors are appointed from 1st September 2006. Therefore, to meet this deadline, these appointments are to be processed instead through the Individual Decision route.

Appendices

Nomination forms – see attached

Appendix 1: Criteria for appointment of LA governors (excluding those schools in special measures)

Appendix 2: Legal Requirements

Implications

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| Policy: | Under the governing body's Instrument of Government it is a requirement to have, within its membership, a number of LA governors. This enables governing bodies to have representatives reflecting the wider interests of the community. |
| Financial: | N/A |
| Personnel: | N/A |
| Legal: | N/A |
| Environmental: | N/A |
| Equalities: | N/A |
| Partnering: | N/A |
| Property: | N/A |
| Risk Management: | N/A |
| Community Safety: | N/A |

Consultation Responses

Members:

Leader of Council: Cllr. Graham Jones
OSC Chairmen: Cllr. Jeffrey Brooks
P&L Committee Chairman N/A
Ward Members: Cllr. George Chandler
Cllr. Gordon Lundie

Opposition Spokesperson: Cllr. Sally Hannon

Advisory Members: N/A

Local Stakeholders: N/A

Officers Consulted: N/A

Trade Union: N/A

Appendix 1:

Criteria for appointment of LEA governors (excluding those schools in special measures)

1. Every attempt will be made to fill LEA governor vacancies within 3 months of the vacancy occurring.
2. Anyone can nominate someone to be a school governor; this may include vacancies for specific schools or to be on a register from which vacancies can be drawn.
3. When a vacancy occurs the local ward member of the area in which the school is based will be asked for suggestions/nominations.
4. Nominations will be considered also from the school governing body, normally through the Clerk.
5. Nominees should complete an application form to confirm their willingness to assume both the general responsibilities of being a governor and the specific responsibilities of being an LEA governor.
6. All nominations must have a proposer and seconder who clearly state the reasons for supporting the nomination.
7. All nominations will be considered and appointments agreed by the Executive.
8. The decision will be communicated by letter to the successful nominee and to the Clerk of the relevant school.
9. A letter will be sent to all unsuccessful nominees and, where appropriate, they will be invited to put their name forward onto a register of potential governors.
10. The Executive has the right to review the attendance of LEA governors on a regular basis and has the power to remove a LEA governor.

Appendix 2:

Legal Requirements

A person cannot be considered for an appointment if he/she:

- is under 18 years of age on the date of appointment;
- can be compulsorily detained under the Mental Health Act 1983;
- is bankrupt or disqualified under the Company Directors Disqualification Act;
- has been removed from a charity trusteeship by the Charity Commissioners or High Court on the grounds of misconduct or mismanagement;
- is included in the list of teachers or workers prohibited or restricted from working with children or young persons (currently named List 99);
- has been disqualified from being an independent school proprietor, teacher or employee in any school by an Independent Schools Tribunal or by the Secretary of State;
- has in the previous five years (or since becoming a governor) been sentenced to three months or more in prison (whether this was suspended or not) without the option of a fine;
- has in the previous 20 years been sentenced to imprisonment for two and a half years or more;
- has at any time been sentenced to imprisonment for five years or more;
- has been fined for causing a nuisance or disturbance on school premises during the five years prior to, or since, appointment or election as a governor;
- refuses an application being made to the Criminal Records Bureau for a criminal records certificate.