

SLOUGH SCHOOLS FORUM
Directorate of Children Learning and Skills

Schools Forum Membership

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides an update on recent changes to the membership of the Schools Forum and proposes any required actions arising. The current Schools Forum Membership is attached as **Appendix 1**.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Schools Forum is asked to note the changes set out in paragraphs 4.1 to 4.8 below.
- 2.2 Schools Forum is asked to endorse the proposed action set out in paragraph 4.8.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To ensure that Schools Forum is aware of the recent changes to membership and that any actions required are put in train so that any vacancies can be filled as soon as possible.

4 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 The membership of the Schools Forum comprised 20 members. The balance of membership among academies and maintained schools and non-school members was compliant with regulation and good practice. However, a number of local changes have taken place, or are about to occur, which lead to the need to review the membership of the Schools Forum.
- 4.2 There had been a vacancy for some time for a Children's Centre member. However, there is good representation of Early Years across Schools Forum and the LA has decided to delete this vacancy.
- 4.4 Regulations require that any LA which maintains a special maintained school has to have representation of that sector on the Schools Forum. Arbour Vale School is therefore entitled to be represented on Schools Forum. However, Arbour Vale School is scheduled to become an academy and it is proposed that the current vacancy for a maintained special school representative be reviewed in the autumn term and that meanwhile, the Headteacher of Arbour Vale School be invited to attend as an observer. See also paragraph 4.8 below.

- 4.5 The above means that the total membership of Schools Forum is 19 members, likely to reduce to 18. This currently comprises 16 schools' members including the Arbour Vale vacancy plus nursery, PVI and Post 16.
- 4.6 The term of office of the member for Private, Voluntary and Independent providers came to an end at the end of March 2018 and expressions of interest were sought by the LA to fill this vacancy. A number of expressions of interest were received. Schools Forum is asked to note that the LA has appointed Kathy Perry from Mighty Acorns Day Nursery who is welcomed to her first meeting.
- 4.7 A review of the balance of academy and maintained sector members has been carried out based on the January 2018 census data. This shows that 72% of pupils in Slough are educated in academies and 28% in maintained schools. This is unchanged since the October 2017 census. The balance of the 15 schools' members therefore remains appropriate with 11 academies and 4 maintained schools' members. In addition, there remains no change to the balance between secondary and primary maintained schools' members with 3 primary maintained school members and 1 secondary maintained school member.
- 4.8 There are currently two academy members representing special schools and Pupil Referral Units: Helen Huntley and Jo Matthews. With the retirement of Helen Huntley in July 2018, there will be a need to recruit a replacement as it is a requirement that both special academies and PRUs are represented on Schools Forum. Jo Matthews remains to represent either Littledown Special School or the primary PRU. It is proposed that filling the remaining vacancy is considered at the first meeting of the autumn term, when it is hoped the position of Arbour Vale can be confirmed (see para 4.4) In the meantime, the Executive Headteacher of Haybrook College will be invited to attend as observer.

5 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 None

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

- 6.1 Borough Solicitor
Not applicable.
- 6.2 Section 151 Officer – Strategic Director of Resources
Not applicable.
- 6.3 Access Implications
There are no access implications.

7 CONSULTATION

7.1 Principal Groups Consulted
None.

7.2 Method of Consultation
Not applicable.

7.3 Representations Received
Not applicable.

7.4 Background Papers
None

Contact for further information
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