

At a meeting of the EDUCATION (APPOINTMENT OF GOVERNORS) PANEL held in the CIVIC CENTRE, SUNDERLAND on MONDAY 12 MARCH 2012 at 5.15pm

Present: -

Councillor Porthouse in the Chair

Councillors Emerson, McClennan, S Foster, Oliver, Shattock. Wood and Mrs D. Elliott

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Kay, Scanlon and Williams.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Minutes

22. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Panel held on 6 February 2012 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Consideration of Candidates for Inclusion on the Approved List

The Executive Director of Children's Services submitted a report on applications received for inclusion on the list of approved candidates for appointment as Local Authority Governors.

Consideration having been given to the applications received, it was: -

23. RESOLVED that the Executive Director of Children's Services be authorised to include the following candidates on the approved list of candidates for appointment as Authority Governors: -

Louise Farthing
Colin English
Paul Young

Governing Body Nominations

The Executive Director of Children's Services submitted a report on nominations received for appointments to various governing bodies.

Upon discussion, it was: -

24. RESOLVED that the nominations detailed in the report be approved.

Proposed Changes to Constitution of School Governing Bodies.

The Executive Director of Children's Services submitted a report regarding the proposed changes to the constitution of School Governing Bodies for information.

The Governor Support Manager advised that the Government have recently published proposals relating to the future constitution of Governing Bodies. However, unlike in the past when changes have taken place, it is intended that this will be permissive legislation (i.e. Governing Bodies can choose to go to the new constitution or remain with the existing stakeholder model).

Whilst these new regulations are not finalised yet we do know that the draft proposals are that Governing Bodies will be able to move to a smaller Governing Body comprising: -

- (a) at least two parent governors;
- (b) the head teacher;
- (c) one staff governor; and
- (d) one authority governor.

It is expected that the choice of constitution will become available for September 2012.

There also a significant change which relates to the appointment of Authority Governors. Under the proposals it will be possible for a school Governing Body to specify 'eligibility criteria' for persons to be appointed as Authority Governors.

The effect of the proposals would be that any person interested in serving as an Authority Governor would need to: -

- (a) meet the eligibility criteria, if any, specified by the governing body;
- (b) be nominated by the Local Authority; and appointed by the governing body.

Discussion ensued regarding the proposals and it was:-

25. RESOLVED that the contents of the report be noted and the Panel be kept updated of future developments

(Signed) S. Porthouse
Chairman