

EDUCATION (APPOINTMENT OF GOVERNORS) PANEL

AGENDA

**Meeting to be held in the Civic Centre (Committee Room No. 2) on
Monday 10 January 2011 at 5.15 p.m.**

Please note the change in meeting room

ITEM	PAGE
1. Declarations of Interest (if any)	
2. Apologies for Absence	
3. Minutes of the last meeting of the Panel held on 8 November 2010	1
(Copy herewith).	
4. Consideration of Candidates for Inclusion on the Approved List	3
(Copy herewith).	
5. Governing Body Nominations	7
(Copy herewith).	
6. Vacancies to be Filled	9
(Copy herewith).	
7. Recruitment of School Governors Update	11
(Copy herewith).	

ELAINE WAUGH,
Head of Law and Governance

Civic Centre,
SUNDERLAND.

21 December 2010

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If you require this, please telephone 0191 5617987**

**At a meeting of the EDUCATION (APPOINTMENT OF GOVERNORS) PANEL
held in the CIVIC CENTRE, SUNDERLAND on MONDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2010 at
5.15 pm**

Present: -

Councillor Richardson in the Chair

Councillors Emerson, Kay and McClennan and Mrs. D. Elliott.

Appointment of Chairman

13. RESOLVED that Councillor Richardson be appointed as Chairman for the meeting.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bell, Shattock, Snowdon and Walton.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Richardson disclosed a personal interest in Item No. 5 as he was one of the candidates.

Mrs. D. Elliott disclosed a personal interest in Item No. 5 as she was a Governor at Portland School.

Minutes

14. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Panel held on 11 October 2010 (copy circulated) 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 and tabled an addendum on applications received for inclusion on the list of approved candidates for appointment as Authority Governors.

In reply to a question from Mrs. Elliott the Governor Support Manager advised that Sunderland was well below the national average in terms of governor vacancy rates and that he could provide more detailed information on benchmarking at a future meeting.

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

15. 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 LEA Governors: -

Laura Brewis
Shannon Dixon
Elisabeth Ann Owen
Christopher David Johnson
Keith McCririck
Michael Potter

Governing Body Nominations

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

Upon discussion, it was: -

16. RESOLVED that the nominations detailed in the report and the addendum be approved.

Rules of Procedure – Implementation of Rule 2(IV)(E)

The Executive Director of Children's Services submitted a report concerning vacancies to be filled by the Panel in accordance with Rule 2(IV)(E) of its Rules of Procedure which stated that where the Ward Councillors had not made a nomination by the expiry of the term after the term in which the vacancies originally arose, those vacancies were eligible to be filled from the approved list.

17. RESOLVED that the nominations as detailed in the report be approved.

(Signed) D. RICHARDSON
Chairman

CONSIDERATION OF CANDIDATES FOR INCLUSION ON APPROVED LIST AT A MEETING OF THE EDUCATION (APPOINTMENT OF GOVERNORS) PANEL HELD ON MONDAY 10th JANUARY 2011

Name, address and occupation	Is there a particular school (or schools) that you would like to serve as an Authority governor?	What commitment can you give to the role of Authority Governor?	Do you have any previous educational (or other) experience, which will assist you in the role of Authority Governor?	Are you a member of any local voluntary groups or organisations, or are you involved in any community activities?	Are there any additional comments that you would like to make in support of your application to become an Authority Governor?
<p>Lennox Lauchlan Address supplied on file</p> <p>University technician. I am an analytical technician in the Chemistry Department of Durham University</p>	<p>Biddick Primary School</p>	<p>Full commitment. Available for evening meetings. Able to take some time off through my work volunteering scheme (Phoenix Durham University scheme) to attend meetings/functions through working hours</p>	<p>I have been working in higher education for nearly 30 years. I have sat on university council in my role as a staff union representative (UNITE branch secretary for 12 years) and have sat on my unions regional and National Higher education committees</p>	<p>Secretary at a local Northern league football club. As mentioned branch secretary of UNITE at Durham university. I have also joined our staff volunteers scheme where I intend to try to be an asset and help local groups around the Sunderland, Washington, Chester-le-Street and Durham City areas as much as possible</p>	<p>I have been a governor at Biddick primary before but was unable to commit enough time to the post at that time. This was due to my mother being a victim of mental health issues and I was the sole carer for my father who obviously wanted to visit my mother in her home every day. Not only did I have to put a lot of my interests on hold I was not allowed to give the full reasons for non-attendance of meetings at any committee I sat on at the time, this being my Fathers decision. My mother died approx 18 months ago so while I still am carer for my father I can now devote time to helping in my community and put something back.</p>
<p>Cllr Alan Emerson Address supplied on file</p> <p>Retired</p>	<p>Ryhope Infant School</p>	<p>I am able to commit time as required.</p>	<p>I have no previous experience.</p>		<p>I have been a senior manger with BT for many years, giving me a wealth of experience of budget decisions and general management issues.</p>

Name, address and occupation	Is there a particular school (or schools) that you would like to serve as an L.E.A. governor?	What commitment can you give to the role of L.E.A. Governor?	Do you have any previous educational (or other) experience, which will assist you in the role of LA. Governor?	Are you a member of any local voluntary groups or organisations, or are you involved in any community activities?	Are there any additional comments that you would like to make in support of your application to become an L.E.A. Governor?
<p>George Thompson Address supplied on file</p> <p>Retired Police Constable currently employed as a support worker on a homeless project</p>	<p>Rickleton or Oxclose or Holley Park Primary</p>	<p>I am currently working part time (24 hours per week) but come the new year I plan to retire and so will be fully available.</p>	<p>I have very basic involvement with schools whilst I was a community Police Officer in Concord & Sulgrave. I worked with particularly hard to reach pupils at Usworth Comp and sat on a truancy panel that they ran at that school.</p>	<p>I am Chair of 3rd Washington Scout Group a Trustee on Oxclose & District Young People's Project Treasurer of the recently formed Friends of Holley Park Group a representative of Washington Voluntary & Community Sector to the Washington Area Committee a volunteer gardener at Washington Old Hall. I was also a trustee on the Washington Asylum Seeker Support Project until its closure last year</p>	<p>Since retiring from the Police Force in 2006 I have completed level 2 qualifications in 'Youth & Community Work' and 'Community Development'. I am currently working toward becoming a 'Community Health Champion', which is a 5 part level 2 qualification being run by the Sunderland Teaching Primary Care Trust and covers Alcohol Abuse; Smoking Cessation; Emotional Health; Financial Capability and Understanding General Health Improvement I am currently working on a homeless support project but for the past 3 years I have been working with Perpetrators of Domestic Abuse, which included considerable involvement in the Child Protection Arena at Review and Core Group meetings.</p>
<p>Patricia Anne Richardson Address supplied on file</p> <p>Retired</p>	<p>Dubmire Primary School</p>	<p>As I am retired any time.</p>	<p>No.</p>	<p>No.</p>	<p>I have a keen interest in Maths and English and would welcome the opportunity to assist local schools in helping to take them forward.</p>

Name, address and occupation	Is there a particular school (or schools) that you would like to serve as an L.E.A. governor?	What commitment can you give to the role of L.E.A. Governor?	Do you have any previous educational (or other) experience, which will assist you in the role of LA. Governor?	Are you a member of any local voluntary groups or organisations, or are you involved in any community activities?	Are there any additional comments that you would like to make in support of your application to become an L.E.A. Governor?
John Gallagher Address supplied on file	Thorney Close Primary School	Afternoons or evenings.	I was previously a sessional worker for Sunderland Safeguarding Children, where I transported children up and down the country to enable them to have contact with their parents.	Labour Party Ward Member, treasurer for the ward, active in the community through my links with the Labour party and currently participating in training within the Labour party to become an active member.	I currently hold a NEBOSH certificate in Health and Safety. Which I believe could be beneficial to the school. Both my children attended Thorney Close Primary and Sandhill View Schools and therefore I have a keen interest in the local schools and benefits of the children in the area that I live.
Eileen Herbert Address supplied on file Retired deputy Headteacher	Biddick, JFK, Lambton or Albany Primary schools	As I am recently retired I have a significant amount of time to give to the role.	I was a primary school teacher for 38 years and during that time I held the roles of deputy Headteacher and special educational needs co-ordinator. I have also been a staff representative on a governing body.		I am very interested in becoming a school governor because I believe that my previous experiences in education, and as a member of a governing body, will be of benefit to a school.
Fiona Miller Address supplied on file Swimming teacher	Barmston Village Primary	Mon 9-12.30. Tues all day including evening. Wed 9-12.30. Thurs 9-12.30. Fri 9-12.30. Sat & Sun free	Lecturer in Sports Psychology at University of Sunderland 2001/2003. Part time nursery Glebe Primary whilst Psychology student 1995/98.	Tony Blair Sports Foundation Volunteer. Get with it volunteer. Level 2 Sports Leader. Level 1 – Athletics Coach. Level 1 Basketball Coach. Level 3 Swimming Coach.	Presently I am a swimming teacher for Gateshead Leisure Centre and the surrounding pools; working with the local schools both primary and secondary. Have a keen interest in sport and education and would like to become a bigger part of my community by becoming a local governor for the East Ward.

Background Papers

Application to Serve as Local Authority School Governor.

EDUCATION (APPOINTMENT OF GOVERNORS) PANEL

10th JANUARY 2011

GOVERNING BODY NOMINATIONS

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

The following nominations have been received:-

Nomination	School	Nominated by
Cllr J Blackburn Address supplied on file	Hetton Lyons Nursery School	** Existing governor seeking re-appointment
Cllr Alan Emerson Address supplied on file	Ryhope Infant School	Cllr A Emerson
Cllr D Fobes Address supplied on file	Sandhill View School	** Existing governor seeking re-appointment
Mr John Gallagher Address held on file	Thorney Close Primary School	Cllr D Allan
Mr P Green Address supplied on file	St John Boste RC VA Primary School	** Existing governor seeking re-appointment
Mrs S Leadbitter Address supplied on file	Maplewood School	** Existing governor seeking re-appointment
Lennox Lauchlan Address supplied on file	Biddick Primary School	Cllr E Timmins
Cllr Graham Miller Address supplied on file	Barmston Village Primary	Cllr E Timmins
Patricia Anne Richardson Address supplied on file	Dubmire Primary School	Cllr D Richardson
Mr B J Simpson Address supplied on file	Shiney Row Primary School	** Existing governor seeking re-appointment
Mr C Tate Address supplied on file	Easington Lane Primary	** Existing governor seeking re-appointment
Cllr R D Tate Address supplied on file	Hetton Lyons Primary School	** Existing governor seeking re-appointment
Mrs L J Woodcock Address supplied on file	Mill Hill Primary School	** Existing governor seeking re-appointment

*** The terms of office of these governors have expired. The governors have been contacted and are willing to serve a further term of office.*

Members of the panel are asked to approve the above nomination.

Background Papers

No background Papers were used

LEA Approved List - Vacancies to be filled by the Education (Appointment of Governors) Panel 10th January 2011

(Addendum)

Rules of procedure - in accordance with rule 2 (iv)(e), where the ward councillor(s) has/have not made a nomination by the expiry of the term after the term in which the vacancy originally arose, the vacancy will be eligible to be filled from the approved list.

Members are asked to consider the following:-

Name & Address	School Preference	Vacancy available
George Thompson Address supplied on file	Rickleton Primary School	<i>Rickleton Primary School (1majority)</i>

Background Papers

Education (Appointment of Governors) Panel - Rules and Procedure

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES TO THE EDUCATION (APPOINTMENT OF GOVERNORS) PANEL

10 JANUARY 2011

RECRUITMENT OF SCHOOL GOVERNORS UPDATE

1 Purpose of Report

This report is intended to give members an updated position on governor recruitment and levels of vacancies.

2 Description of Decision

Members of the Appointment of Governors Panel are asked to note the content of the report and give their views on the future recruitment of school governors.

3 Background

The Appointment of Governors Panel was constituted by the Council and met for the first time in December 1999. This marked a change in the way that Authority governors (previously known as LEA Governors) were appointed in Sunderland. The Appointments Panel was given full delegated powers to appoint and remove Authority governors and did not need to have its decisions ratified by another other Council Committee or Cabinet. The Appointments Panel holds a list of approved candidates for appointment as Authority governors and all appointments since then have only been made from this approved list. Sunderland City Council was among the first to publish selection criteria for its Authority governors.

At their peak (in 2002), vacancies for Authority governors stood at 21.6%. This was a matter of concern and was generally higher than the national average for this category of governor.

Alongside the new Appointment of Governors Panel the Council began to advertise for prospective governors and stepped up its efforts to recruit governors.

Surveys of school governor vacancies take place regularly and over the past ten years have shown a significant reduction in the level of governor vacancies overall (taking account of all categories). This is the result of sustained recruitment efforts, effective induction arrangements and strong support for governors. The trend across all school sectors has been downwards with fewer vacancies for Parent, Staff, Community and Foundation Governors.

The percentage of Authority appointed governor vacancies has also dropped to a much lower level (12.2%) while the actual number of Authority Governor vacancies has more than halved since 2002.

Although the Education (Appointment of Governors) Panel is only responsible for Authority Governor appointments, this report also makes reference to Sunderland's position in terms of other categories of governor to give members an overall perspective of governor recruitment in the City.

4 Current Position

Recent benchmarking against other Local Authorities has been carried out. Comparisons were drawn between Sunderland against other metropolitan Authorities and against all Authorities nationally. Some of the key points to note from this benchmarking are: -

- Compared to the national average, Sunderland's overall governor vacancy rate is lower than the national average. Our vacancies are just 8.9% compared to a national average of 11.2% across all Authorities and 10.5% for Metropolitan Authorities.
- Overall vacancy rates (taking account of all categories of governor) in Sunderland have fallen from 13% in March 2003 to the current level of 8.9%.
- The percentage of parent governor vacancies (12.7%) continues to be lower than the average for all Authorities.
- Community Governor vacancies in Sunderland are 9.5% which compares favourably with the national average of 14.1% for this category
- The level of Authority Governor vacancies (12.2%), although variable, is now broadly in line with national averages for all Authorities
- The percentage of vacant Staff Governor places are considerably lower than the national average at 2.7% (Sunderland) compared to 5.8% (national) and 5.4% (Metropolitan Authorities)

Sunderland is also successful in recruiting governors from all parts of the community and is active in monitoring data surrounding this participation. This is demonstrated by: -

- the increase in BME membership of Governing Bodies (currently 1.5% which is comparable with other Authorities in the north of England, which average 1.7%). Sunderland's figure also represents a positive step forward compared to 2006 (which was when data was first collated) as at that time the BME percentage of governors stood at 0.7%.
- the higher than average participation levels of people who class themselves as disabled (3.5% Sunderland, 1.2% national)
- male/female participation in line with national averages

Whilst there has been a great deal of positive action taken in terms of governor recruitment in the City it should remain a priority to minimise vacancies for all categories of governor including Authority appointed governors, for which the Education (Appointment of Governors) Panel is responsible.

5 Proposal

Members of the Education (Appointment of Governors) Panel are asked to note the content of the report.

Members are also asked to consider any additional strategies in relation to the recruitment of all governors but with particular reference to Authority governors.

6 Background papers

No background papers were used.