

EDUCATION (APPOINTMENT OF GOVERNORS) PANEL

16<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2012

FEDERATION OF THORNHILL SCHOOL AND WASHINGTON SCHOOL

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

**1. Introduction**

At the last meeting of the Education (Appointment of Governors) Panel members received a report which explained that the Governing Bodies of Thornhill School and Washington School wished to federate under a single Governing Body with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2012. Under a federation the existing Governing Bodies of the schools are dissolved on the date of incorporation and a new Governing Body is established.

Under a federation, the two schools will retain their separate identities and will continue to receive their own budget share. The main difference is the governance of the two schools but there are also opportunities for sharing of resources across the two schools to achieve efficiencies and promote good practice.

**2. Procedure/constitution**

The federated Governing Body will comprise: -

PARENT GOVERNORS -	7
STAFF GOVERNORS -	4
COMMUNITY GOVERNORS -	6
AUTHORITY GOVERNORS -	4
<b><u>TOTAL GOVERNORS -</u></b>	<b><u>21</u></b>

The previous report detailed the process for parent and staff governor elections and the process for appointing Community Governors. The main purpose of the previous report was, however, to ask members to consider how Local Authority Governor appointments would be made.

Following discussion it was agreed that the existing Local Authority Governors be approached to ascertain whether they were interested in serving on the federated Governing Body. This decision was taken primarily to ensure that there was an element of continuity between the discontinuing Governing Bodies and the new federated Governing Body.

**3. Appointment of Governors**

In accordance with the decision of the Education (Appointment of Governors) Panel at their last meeting, a letter was issued to all existing Local Authority

appointed governors of Washington and Thornhill Schools. Governors were asked to indicate whether they were interested in serving as an Authority appointed governor of the federation. Governors were asked to respond by a specified deadline and, where they failed to reply, it would be assumed that they were not interested in serving in this capacity.

The following governors responded to indicate that they wished to serve as Local Authority Governors on the federation: -

Mrs D Nicholson – Majority (governor of Thornhill School)

Mrs J Robson – Majority (governor of Thornhill School)

Mr W Tarvit – Majority (governor of Thornhill School)

Councillor G Miller – Majority\*\* (governor of Washington School)

Mr J R Robson – Minority (governor of Washington School)

\*\*Note that these were additional governors appointed for a temporary period using the Local Authority's powers of intervention as the school was placed in special measures. The school is no longer in this category.

Members are asked to decide how the appointments will be made to the available Authority Governor positions on the federated Governing Body.

Background papers

School Governance (Federations) (England) Regulations 2007