

MAYOR AND CABINET			
Report Title	Appointment of Local Authority Governors		
Key Decision	No	Item No.	
Ward	Forest Hill, Bellingham, Crofton Park, Downham, Ladywell, Lewisham Central, Telegraph Hill, Evelyn.		
Contributors	Executive Director for Children and Young People Head of Law		
Class	Part 1	Date:	25 June 2014

1. Summary

- 1.1 The report sets out details of nominees for appointment as Local Authority governors.

2. Purpose

- 2.1 To consider and approve the appointment of Local Authority governors detailed in paragraph 6 below.

3. Recommendation/s

The Mayor is recommended to:

- 3.1 agree to appoint the persons set out in paragraph 6 as Local Authority governors;
- 3.2 note the information concerning the recommended new and re-appointed governors in Appendix 1.

4. Policy Context

- 4.1 Lewisham's Children & Young People's Plan sets out our vision for improving outcomes for all children. The main purpose of a governing body is to account for the achievement of children and young people in their schools.
- 4.2 The appointment of governors supports the broad priorities within Lewisham's Sustainable Community strategy, in particular those of being "ambitious and achieving" and "empowered and responsible". Governors help inspire our young people to achieve their full potential and they also promote volunteering which allows them to be involved in their local area.

- 4.3 Two specific corporate priorities that are relevant pertain to “community leadership and empowerment” and “young people’s achievement and involvement”.

5. Background

- 5.1 Every governing body, under Section 19 of the Education Act 2002 and School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2007, is required to have at least one representative of the Local Authority as part of its membership. Free schools and Academies are exempt from this requirement. A vacancy has arisen on the governing body of the educational establishments listed and a new appointment or re-appointment is required.
- 5.2 Appointments to school governing bodies are usually for a four-year term, unless stipulated otherwise in the Instrument of Government. The persons listed in paragraph 6 would serve the normal 4 years.

6. Governors recommended for Appointment / Reappointment as Local Authority governors at specific schools / federations.

Name	School	Reappointment	New appointment
Cllr. Jacqueline Paschoud	Holy Trinity	Yes	
Cllr. Carl Handley	Watergate	Yes	
Maureen Swift	St William of York	Yes	
Hannah Jeffreys	Good Shepherd		Yes
Andrew Holmes	Leathersellers' Federation		Yes
Sophie Smith	Turnham		Yes
Gila Tabrizi	Sydenham		Yes
Kate Canniffe	Sir Francis Drake		Yes

7. Financial implications

- 7.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

8. Legal implications

- 8.1 Section 19 of the Education Act 2002 and School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2007 require every governing body

to have at least one representative of the Local Authority as part of its membership. Academies are exempt from this requirement.

- 8.2 The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) introduced a new public sector equality duty (the equality duty or the duty). It covers the following nine protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- 8.3 In summary, the Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:
- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
 - advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 8.4 The duty continues to be a “have regard duty”, and the weight to be attached to it is a matter for the Mayor, bearing in mind the issues of relevance and proportionality. It is not an absolute requirement to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity or foster good relations.
- 8.5 The Equality and Human Rights Commission has recently issued Technical Guidance on the Public Sector Equality Duty and statutory guidance entitled “Equality Act 2010 Services, Public Functions & Associations Statutory Code of Practice”. The Council must have regard to the statutory code in so far as it relates to the duty and attention is drawn to Chapter 11 which deals particularly with the equality duty. The Technical Guidance also covers what public authorities should do to meet the duty. This includes steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The guidance does not have statutory force but nonetheless regard should be had to it, as failure to do so without compelling reason would be of evidential value. The statutory code and the technical guidance can be found at:
<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/legal-and-policy/equality-act/equality-act-codes-of-practice-and-technical-guidance/>
- 8.6 The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has previously issued five guides for public authorities in England giving advice on the equality duty:
1. The essential guide to the public sector equality duty
 2. Meeting the equality duty in policy and decision-making
 3. Engagement and the equality duty
 4. Equality objectives and the equality duty
 5. Equality information and the equality duty

- 8.7 The essential guide provides an overview of the equality duty requirements including the general equality duty, the specific duties and who they apply to. It covers what public authorities should do to meet the duty including steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The other four documents provide more detailed guidance on key areas and advice on good practice. Further information and resources are available at: <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/advice-and-guidance/public-sector-equality-duty/guidance-on-the-equality-duty/>

9 Crime and Disorder Implications

- 9.1 There are no specific crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

10. Equalities Implications

- 10.1 Lewisham Council's policy is to encourage all sections of the community to be represented as Local Authority governors. In particular, we would encourage further representation from the black community and minority groups including disabled people, who are currently under-represented as governors. The numbers of governors in these groups is kept under review

11. Environmental Implications

- 11.1 There are no specific environmental implications arising from this report.

12. Conclusion

- 12.1 The individuals detailed in Appendix 1 are people who view being a governor as a way of utilising their skills and experience to make a difference to the lives of children and young people in Lewisham schools. Section 19 of the Education Act 2002 and Regulations made under it require every governing body to have at least one representative of the Local Authority as part of its membership. Academies are exempt from this requirement. A vacancy has arisen on the governing body of the educational establishments listed and a new appointment or re-appointment is required.
- 12.2 Appointments to school governing bodies are usually for a four-year term, unless stipulated otherwise in the Instrument of Government. The nominees listed in paragraph 6 would serve the normal 4 years.

Background Documents

There are no background papers.

If there are any queries arising from this report, please contact Suhaib Saeed, Strategic Lead Governors' Services and School Leadership, Governors' Services, 3rd Floor, Laurence House, telephone 020 8314 7670

New LA Governor Appointments and Re-appointments

APPENDIX 1

Name	School	Occupation	Residential Area	Précis of Suitability to be considered as a school governor	Governor Monitoring Information
Cllr Jacqueline. Paschoud	Holy Trinity CE	LB of Lewisham Councillor	SE23	Cllr. Paschoud is a long-standing LA governor at Holy Trinity School. She is a very active governor and is currently Chair of Governors at Holy Trinity School. She is also a Labour Councillor representing Bellingham Ward and is also a foundation governor at Watergate School.	Female White British
Cllr Carl Handley	Watergate	LB of Lewisham Councillor	SE4	Cllr Handley has been a governor since May 1992 serving on St Saviour's, Gordonbrock and Watergate Schools. He has been the Chair of Governors of Watergate School since 1999 and is passionate about special education. He has been instrumental in forming a trust with Brent Knoll and Watergate schools and previously a soft federation with Watergate and Greenvale schools for the benefit of the pupils. He is also a Labour Councillor representing Ladywell Ward.	Male White British
Maureen Swift	St William of York RC	Clerk to Governors	SE23	Maureen is an experienced governor with extensive knowledge of effective governance, data, procedures and regulations. She is an active participant in meetings and chairs the Finance Committee.	Female White British
Hannah Jeffreys	Good Shepherd RC	Legal Caseworker	BR2	Hannah is a legal caseworker for a charity representing individuals in legal disputes from informal resolution to tribunal representation. She has previously worked as a paralegal and for a number of voluntary organisations. Her legal training and experience and ability to analyse large	Female White British

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				volumes of information and summarise issues quickly will be of benefit to the governing body.	
Andrew Holmes	The Leathersellers' Federation of Schools	Chartered Engineer	SE3	<p>Andrew was previously a Community Governor and Foundation Governor at the Leathersellers' Federation. He joined as a governor in 2009 and has been extremely professional and helpful. Andrew's professional expertise and experience has been invaluable to the Federation's various building projects, not least at Prendergast Hilly Fields and Prendergast Vale.</p> <p>In addition to the Federation, Andrew is also a Governor of the University of Greenwich. A new vacancy has arisen with the Local Authority category and Andrew's appointment as a Local Authority Governor will be well received by the governing body.</p>	Male/ White British
Ms Sophie Smith	Turnham	Solicitor	SE6	Sophie has been a community governor at Sandhurst Junior School for eight years; she served as Vice Chair for several years, and has now been Chair for two years. Sophie is a very strong and effective leader, whose calm manner, commitment to school improvement, and clear vision has had a significant impact on the Governing Body and school. Her skills and experience will be of benefit to the governing body.	Female White British

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Name	School	Occupation	Residential Area	Précis of Suitability to be considered as a school governor	Governor Monitoring Information
Gila Tabrizi	Sydenham	Policy Officer	SE22	Gila has worked in skills and education policy roles for over 5 years. Her role involves writing reports, policy documents and think pieces as well as submitting evidence to government consultations and parliamentary enquiries. She is currently responsible for dealing with 14-19 funding agencies. She is also the lead for teacher education. She an active member of local community groups and the governing body would benefit from her skills and experience.	Female Any other White Background
Kate Canniffe	Sir Francis Drake	Company Director	SE8	<p>Kate runs a small computer consultancy firm, providing technical services. She has previously been a parent governor at the school and is experienced in setting strategy and direction, project planning.</p> <p>Kate has been Chair and Vice Chair at various times, and has been Chair of the Personnel Committee. She is also a member of the Curriculum Committee and has always been a very active and supportive governor. Her appointment would be welcomed by the governing body.</p>	Female White British