

MAYOR AND CABINET			
Report Title	Appointment of Local Authority Governors		
Key Decision	Yes	Item No.	
Ward	Various		
Contributors	Executive Director for Children and Young People		
Class	Part 1	Date:	5 December 2012

1. Summary

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

2. Purpose

- 2.2 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 rescind the local authority governor appointments of Mr. George Kwasniewski and Mrs. Julia Newton who were appointed to Elfrida and Athelney Primary Schools respectively at the 14th November Mayor and Cabinet meeting
- 3.2 agree to appoint the persons set out in paragraph 6; as local authority governors
- 3.3 note the information concerning the 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 school. The appointment of governors is a vital element in achieving these aims.
- 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". In

particular, governors help inspire our young people to achieve their full potential by removing the barriers to learning. The role of governors also promotes volunteering and empowers citizens to be involved in their local area and responsive to the needs of those who live there.

- 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 Elfrida and Athelney are in a partnership. In order to strengthen the partnership it was agreed that Mrs Julia Newton, who is Chair of Athelney, should be appointed as Local Authority Governor to Elfrida and Mr George Kwasniewski, Governor at Elfrida, join the Athelney Governing Body. Due to an administrative error they were appointed to schools they are already a governor rather than the partner school.

5.2 Every governing body, under Section 19 of the Education Act 2002 and Regulations made under it, is required to have at least one representative of the Local Authority (LA) as part of its membership. A vacancy has arisen on the governing body of the educational establishments listed and a new appointment or re-appointment is required.

5.3 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

Name	School	Reappointment	New
Mrs. Rhian Douglas	Rathfern Primary		Yes
Mr. George Kwasniewski	Athelney		Yes
Mrs. Julia Newton	Elfrida		Yes
Mrs. Victoria Widdows	Haseltine	Yes	
Ms. Mel Church	Sandhurst Infant and Nursery School	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 Regulations made under it require every governing body to have at least one representative of the local authority as part of its membership.

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 new governors detailed in Appendix 1 are either local people or have close connections with Lewisham and view being a governor as a way of serving the local community. Every governing body, under Section 36 and Schedule 9 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, is required to have at least one representative of the Local Authority (LA) as part of its membership. 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

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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
Mrs.Rhian Douglas	Rathfern Primary	University Manager	SE6 4XH	<p>Mrs.Douglas has worked in education since 2002 and held various posts at the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA), Specialist Schools and Academy Trust and the Institute of Education. Mrs. Douglas has experience of policy development across all educational phases, managing projects and curriculum development.</p> <p>She was also a Governor in Wandsworth from 2002 to 2006.</p>	Female, White British.
Mrs. Victoria Widdows	Haseltine	Housewife	SE26 4LP	<p>Victoria became Chair of the Governing Body in November 2011, having been vice chair for several years, and has provided excellent leadership to the Governing Body and support for the school during a period of considerable transition. She has also chaired the Standards Committee for several years. As Chair, Victoria is one of Haseltine's representative on the Joint Steering Group for the partnership with Fairlawn and Kilmorie Primary Schools, and has participated with the other two chairs in recruiting the new Executive Headteacher.</p>	Female White British

Name	School	Occupation	Residential Area	Précis of Suitability to be considered as a school governor	Governor Monitoring Information
Ms. Mel Church	Sandhurst Infant and Nursery School	Teacher	SE6 2NA	Ms. Church is a long standing governor on Sandhurst Infant's (and on Sandhurst Junior's) GB. She is a committed governor with a great attendance record. She is a teacher in an Early Years setting in Southwark. Her skills have proved particularly helpful at committee level; she is a member of the Curriculum Committee which she has previously chaired	Not given
Mr. George Kwasniewski	Athelney	Trainer	SE6	Mr Kwasniewski was a very effective Chair of Governors for several years in another Lewisham School and is currently a LA Governor at another Lewisham Primary school . He delivers governor training in Lewisham and is a National Leader of Governance (NLG) providing support to other Chairs of Governors. He will undoubtedly strengthen the governing body.	White British
Mrs. Julia Newton	Elfrida	Retired	SE25	Mrs. Newton has been a very effective Chair of Governors for over 15 years in another school and has strong financial management and HR skills. She has experience of working in local authorities and will undoubtedly strengthen the governing body.	White British