

## **REVIEW OF SCHOOLS FORUM CONSTITUTION**

### **Purpose of the Report**

The purpose of this report is to seek the approval of the Schools Forum (SF) of the revised Constitution (June 2018)

### **Information and Advice**

The Schools Forum Constitution has not been revised since October 2012. Following the publication of the DfE's "Schools Forum operational and good practice guide", (September 2017) the SF agreed a working party to consider the current constitution in relation to changes within the schools sector arising from increasing academisation as well as best practice nationally.

Initial revisions to the constitution were presented and discussed at the Schools Forum on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2018. A recommendation was made for a working group to be formed (Appendix A) to further discuss and agree the emerging 'decisions required' as presented in Appendix B.

Decisions were made around some key themes as follows:

- Who can change the Constitution, what consultation is required and who can approve changes?
- Arrangements for 'substitutes' and a procedure for proxy voting by substitutes
- Whether academy representatives are identified on an individual academy or MAT basis
- Procedural matters including the confirmation of the chair and vice chair, schools forum yearly forward planner
- The insertion of a Code of Conduct based on the 7 Principles of Public Life (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-7-principles-of-public-life> )

Appendix B confirms the views of the working party with regard to these key areas and as a result have been incorporated into the draft Constitution.

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

### **That the Schools Forum:**

1. Agrees the adoption of the proposed Code of Conduct
2. Agrees the Constitution with a commitment to yearly review in September each year starting in September 2019

**Marion Clay**

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Schools Forum Meeting Date	
September 17	Membership report taken to forum where a request was made for a list of member vacancies
October 17	Forum Chair updates members on the vacancies and substitute requirements
December 17	Forum Chair advises a review of the constitution
January 18	Officers meet and work with the Local Authority's legal team to make initial revisions to the constitution
February 18	1 <sup>st</sup> draft of amendments to the constitution was presented to Forum members, a working group was recommend to further discuss and agree the emerging decisions required as presented in Appendix B (working group members list is detailed below)
April 18	Working group met to discuss and agree the emerging decisions presented in appendix B

**Working Party Member**

Dawn Wigley  
 Andrew Rossington  
 Joe Jeffries  
 Anne Hall  
 Marion Clay  
 Sue Summerscales  
 Toni Gardner