

SCHOOLS FORUM CONSTITUTION

Purpose of the Report

1. To seek Schools Forum approval to amend Article 2, Composition, of the Nottinghamshire Schools Forum Constitution.

Information and Advice

2. The Nottinghamshire Schools Forum Constitution states that forum members continually review and make any changes that is considered necessary to ensure meetings are conducted in an efficient and transparent manner and school and academy membership is broadly proportionate to pupil numbers.
3. The membership of the Schools Forum is reviewed every September and where there has been a proportionate change which affects school and academy membership, this is reflected in the actual membership composition of the Forum.
4. Changes in membership between school and academy members would be managed through vacancies. However if there is no vacancy in the September, the current Constitution does not provide a process for resolving this issue.
5. This was an issue for Nottinghamshire in September 2019 which has since been resolved. As a result, it has been necessary to seek advice and make suggestions to ensure that the Forum can maintain the correct membership.
6. The local authority sought advice from its Legal Services and an amendment to Article 2, Composition, Section 2.0.1 Schools and Academies membership is proposed as follows:

Current wording: Section 2.0.1 Schools and Academies membership

- (a) School and academy membership should be broadly proportionate according to the pupil numbers in each category based on the pupil numbers in each category as at September 2018. Membership will be reviewed and updated as more conversions take place. The quorum for meetings of the Schools Forum is 40% of the current membership excluding vacancies.

With Proposed Amendment: Section 2.0.1 Schools and Academies membership

- (a) School and academy membership should be broadly proportionate according to the pupil numbers in each category based on the pupil numbers in each category as at September 2018. Membership will be reviewed and updated as more conversions take place. **If adjustments need to be made and there are no current vacancies, then the size of the schools forum should be increased temporarily to appoint additional academy members. Schools member posts should then be deleted at the end of a term of office, or when a vacancy arises.** The quorum for meetings of the Schools Forum is 40% of the current membership excluding vacancies.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Schools Forum:

1. Approve the amendment to Article 2 – composition, Section 2.0.1 (a) of the Nottinghamshire Schools Forum constitution in line with paragraph 6.

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