



## COUNTY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (GOVERNORS)

THURSDAY, 19 MAY 2022

3.30 PM – 5PM, REMOTE VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

MEMBERS - Councillor Bob Standley (Chair)  
Councilors Colin Belsey, Roy Galley, Philip Scott, Alan Shuttleworth.

ALSO INVITED - Jessica Stubbings, Clare Cornford, Samuel Leonard - ESCC Officers  
Karen Marr, Denise Kong, Monica Whitehead, Stuart Ford, Duncan Irvine and  
Jenny Barnard-Langston – Members of the East Sussex Governor Forum  
(ESGF).

### A G E N D A

1. Minutes of the previous meeting (*Pages 3 - 6*)
2. Apologies for absence
3. Disclosure of Interests  
Disclosure by all Members present of personal interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the Members regard the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct.
4. Urgent items  
Notification of any items which the Chair considers urgent and proposes to take at the appropriate part of the agenda. Any members who wish to raise urgent items are asked, wherever possible, to notify the Chair before the start of the meeting. In so doing, they must state the special circumstances which they consider justify the matter being considered urgent.
5. Academies Update (standing item)
  - Jessica Stubbings, Senior Manager – Partnerships and Governance – Verbal Update.
6. Local Authority Governor Appointments and Governor Vacancy Update (*Pages 7 - 10*)
  - Clare Cornford, Project Officer, Governor Services.
7. Round up from Governors about Covid and Post Covid
  - Councillor Standley, All – verbal update
8. Green and White Paper update
  - Jessica Stubbings – verbal update
9. RE Update from Councillor Galley (*Pages 11 - 12*)
10. ESGF Verbal Update for Councillors to include:
  - Recruitment - what can be done to attract more teachers and support staff to East Sussex.
  - Mental Health - the knock on effects e.g. rise in complaints and loss of staff and governors

- SEND - the impact on already tight resources and lack of available places.
- Effective governance - the right people around the table for the right reasons.

11. Governor Local Area Forums (*Pages 13 - 16*)  
– feedback, attendance and future forums. ESGF and Clare Cornford
12. County Consultative Committee (Governors) meeting format for 2022-23
13. Any other items previously notified under agenda item 4

PHILIP BAKER  
Assistant Chief Executive  
County Hall, St Anne's Crescent  
LEWES BN7 1UE

11 May 2022

Contact Clare Cornford (Project Assistant – Governor and Clerking Service), 01323 466887,

Email: [clare.cornford@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:clare.cornford@eastsussex.gov.uk)

## COUNTY Consultative Committee (Governors): Spring Term 2022

### SUMMARY REPORT

Meeting: County Consultative Committee (Governors)

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Venue: Microsoft Teams

Present: Cllrs Bob Standley (Chair), Colin Belsey, Roy Galley, Philip Scott, Alan Shuttleworth.

Also invited Jessica Stubbings, Clare Cornford, Samuel Leonard - ESCC Officers  
Karen Marr, Denise Kong, Monica Whitehead, Stuart Ford –  
Members of the East Sussex Governor Forum (ESGF).

Apologies: Cllr Phil Scott

Item	Decisions and Outcomes	Action
1.	<b>Minutes of previous County Consultative Committee Meeting – 13 October 2021</b>  The minutes were noted as a true record.	
2.	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>  Apologies accepted for Cllr Scott.	
3.	<b>Disclosure of Interests</b>  Disclosures by all members present of personal interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the member regards the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct.  No interests were declared.	
4.	<b>Urgent Items</b> None	
5.	<b>Academies Update (standing item)</b>  JS gave the Committee an update on the academisation of the following schools since the last meeting in October 2021: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>January 2022 - Northiam CE Primary School and Hurst Green CE Primary School &amp; Nursery converted to the Diocese of Chichester Academy Trust (DCAT).</li> <li>February 2022 – Telscombe Cliffs Primary School and Peacehaven Heights Primary School converted to the STEP Academy Trust.</li> <li>Uplands are looking to convert to the Beacon Academy Trust later in the year.</li> </ul> Upcoming proposed conversions are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ditchling (St Margaret's) CE Primary and Nursery School are consulting to join the Hurst Education Trust.</li> <li>Chyngton Primary School are consulting with Seaford Head School to join the Seaford Learning Trust.</li> </ul> KM asked if anymore academisations are in the pipeline. JS responded by saying there are none currently, though the White Paper due in the spring may give a stronger steer towards	

	academisation. Cllr Standley agreed that the White Paper may impact the rate of academisation.	
6.	<p><b>Local Authority Governor Appointments and Governor Vacancy Update</b></p> <p>The County Consultative Committee noted the report they received prior to the meeting from CC on behalf of Governor Services and the East Sussex Governors Forum (ESGF).</p> <p>CC detailed some of the highlights from the report including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Authority governor vacancy rate is at 9.3% with further governors due to be approved. This is below the vacancy rate of all East Sussex governor types, which sits at 15.9%.</li> <li>159 new governors and associate members since 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021</li> <li>101 expressions of interest to become a governor have come in since the launch of a more localised recruitment campaign in January 2020.</li> <li>Since 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021, 1390 training, briefing, and networking places have been accessed by governors in over 78 sessions. These sessions also covering a variety of relevant themes.</li> </ul> <p>CC also reported that there has been welcome interest in a new push for Local Support Governor applications, where governors volunteer to offer their experience to schools in need.</p> <p>Cllr Standley asked if working from home has helped with governor engagement. CC answered that it has helped. KM agreed with CC and added that a blended approach has made governance more accessible.</p> <p>KM asked about the 4 schools with 25% vacancy rate, saying that is a concern. CC responded by saying that the Governor and Clerking Service (GCS) are working with the schools, with the situations at these schools more complicated than most. KM offered her support if needed.</p>	
7.	<p><b>Round up from Governors about Covid and Post Covid</b></p> <p>Cllr Standley asked how schools were coping with covid and the post covid challenges. KM answered that schools are generally coping well, but there is concern over 3 or 4 bouts of covid that have put schools under severe pressure. Reception classes appear to be the most disadvantaged, with speech and language difficulties the most common problem. This has added to the pressure on schools.</p> <p>MW reported that staff absences has put a strain on schools, with the headteacher having to manage these situations on top of all their other duties. SF also added that staff absence is crippling schools and their budget. Wellbeing is also a big concern for staff due to the pressures. Staff resignations have consequently become an issue due to the pressures. JS echoed the comments and added that headteachers report that the cost of supply cover is large. Energy costs also having 150% increases is having a huge impact. School leaders and staff are clearly under pressure.</p> <p>KM noted a lower absence to due non covid issues at her school, which is a positive.</p> <p>Cllr Standley asked how we are monitoring the budget issues around energy. JS says that the regional school commissioner's office has been contacted to raise this as an issue.</p> <p>KM raised the issue of covid recovery and tutoring intervention. There is a concern over the National Tutoring Programme (NTP). Schools with NTP credits need to be supported. Cllr Standley noted this.</p>	
8.	<b>School attendance – do we need to improve it and if so, how would we?</b>	

	<p>Cllr Standley said that school attendance has been an issue the Local Authority (LA) are always looking at, and that attendance campaigns have been widespread. Cllr Standley asked the East Sussex Governor Forum (ESGF) where schools are with their attendance numbers. KM answered that there is a constant push for attendance drives, and governors would welcome any support to keep this push going. MW noted that there is worry from older students about coming in for their exams after such a disturbance to their routines.</p> <p>Cllr Galley asked about the evidence of home education and is there an issue with this. JS responded that there has been an increase in the home educated pupils. This is an area of concern as the contact with these children is more difficult. This is a national issue. JS will circulate a national report about elected home educated pupils to the group. Cllr Standley noted his concern that not all parents are good teachers and there are limited powers from the Local Authority to monitor those children. JS added that there may soon be a national register of home educated pupils to help monitor them. Cllr Galley asked what support is given to home schooled. JS answered that the Council offers some support but that this is limited due to our current statutory role.</p> <p>JS updated on attendance. There is concern about increasing rates of attendance and we are monitoring the data. We have been able to provide additional funding to schools across the County through Contain Outbreak Management Funding and the Hastings Opportunity Area (HOA) has also helped Hastings schools. A campaign will also be going out to highlight the positive stories of being in school. The Department of Education are also looking at attendance issues and are investigating these themselves.</p> <p>Cllr Standley finished the topic by saying this issue needs to be looked at closely in the coming months.</p>	
9.	<p><b>ESGF Update for Councillors:</b></p> <p>KM reported the current Local Area Forums (LAFs) were around school to school support, and the relationship with the Education Improvement Partnerships (EIPs) and Primary/Secondary Boards. Some concerns from governors are around how can they let teachers go to other schools when the pressures are so huge at their own schools.</p> <p>The ESGF have been meeting regularly and the Chairs network raised issues over energy costs and budget concerns. Mental Health is also an issue for students. There are also concerns over the support from ESBAS. A report back from the EIP in Eastbourne noted that the support from ESBAS over exclusions had a positive impact. However, the money to buy into this support may not be there for most schools. JS noted that there had been staffing issues in ESBAS due to the increase in demand for their support. KM responded by asking for good practice to be shared about how ESBAS works best in collaboration with the support already in place at the school.</p> <p>DK asks about ESBAS funding and how much impact councillors have over this. Cllr Standley responded by saying Councillors have total control, but sometimes there is not enough money to spread everywhere. Cllr Shuttleworth responded by asking the ESGF to communicate if there are any specific areas that can make a big difference, where governors would want to see extra support. JS also added that the Councillors have been helping target key pressure points with extra funding.</p> <p>Cllr Galley raised the issue of Religious Education (RE). The advisor of RE is due to release a new syllabus for schools. The aim is to modernise the RE program and Cllr Galley would like governors to be made aware of this. Cllr Galley asked if training would be welcome for governors. CC responded by saying sessions are already planned for next term. KM asked Cllr Galley if a list of questions could be made available for governors to</p>	

	<p>ask at their meetings. Cllr Galley is happy with this and that governors are taking this issue seriously. Cllr Belsey added that the suggestion by KM is excellent, and the take up by governors already is positive.</p> <p>DK asks if the EIP budgets are set by the Council, JS responds that this is set by Councillors each year as part of the overall budget setting.</p>	
10.	<p><b>Governor Local Area Forums – feedback, attendance, and future forums</b></p> <p>Cllr Standley asks about the LAFs and the numbers. CC responded by saying that the numbers are positive. KM and Cllr Standley asked how many schools are being reached through the forums and what are the schools doing who have no attendees. JS would like school attendance on forums added to the report for next time, to see which schools' information is not being reached.</p>	
11.	<p><b>Any other items previously notified under agenda item 4</b></p>	
12.	<p><b>Dates of Future Meetings</b></p> <p>TBC</p>	

**Report to:** County Consultative Committee

**Date of meeting:** 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022

**By:** Clare Cornford

**Title:** Local Authority Governor Update for Councillors

**Purpose:** To update Councillors on the nomination for appointment of local authority governors and governor vacancies

---

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **1) For information**

---

#### **11 Background**

1.1 The local authority has a statutory duty to approve nominations for local authority governors. Once nominated, schools then appoint local authority governors onto their governing board.

1.2 This report provides a summary of local authority governor applications approved for nomination, and information about the level of governor vacancies across the county.

#### **2 Supporting information**

2.1 Since the report sent to Councillors on the 10 February 2022, 10 local authority governors were nominated for appointment, all were approved for a 4 year term of office. Of the 10, 9 were reappointments and 1 was a new appointment.

Emma Creffield	Cross In Hand Church of England Primary School	Reappointment
Angus Scott	West Rise Junior School	Reappointment
Carol Feltwell	Catsfield Church of England Primary School	Reappointment
Stuart Ford	Harbour Primary and Nursery School	Reappointment
Ian Green	Forest Row Church of England Primary School	Reappointment
Anne Franklin	Ringmer Primary and Nursery School	Reappointment
Emile Tambeh	Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School	Reappointment
Peter Lilja	Ninfield Church of England Primary School	Reappointment
Linda Pannell	Grove Park Primary School	New Appointment
Debbie Aggett	Motcombe Community School	Reappointment

2.2 Of the 95 local authority governor places in East Sussex maintained schools, there are currently 11 vacancies, we are working with the relevant boards to recruit governors for these vacancies. This is a vacancy rate of 9.3%. The overall vacancy rate for all types of governors in East Sussex is currently 14.8%. 169 new governors, including Associate Members, have been appointed since 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021.

2.3 Further information on the governor vacancies across East Sussex, by type of governor is shown in Appendix 1.

2.4 Information on governing boards and governors is accessed through the governors online database. This is a database maintained by the local authority; clerks to governing bodies for local authority maintained schools are responsible for updating the information on their governors and governing boards. The governor and clerking service conduct regular checks of the data to highlight inaccuracies and missing data. Clerks have dedicated training through the clerk network meetings and training sessions on using and updating the database. The local authority does not hold governor information for academy schools.

2.5 The Governor and Clerking Service (GCS) supports governing boards in a number of ways to recruit governors. The launch in January 2020 of the new, more localised recruitment campaign where the GCS match potential governors directly with schools has been a success. Since the launch of the campaign, 101 people have expressed an interest to become a governor. All applicants are matched with a school and very few have not resulted in an appointment.

### **Governor Training**

2.7 Since September 2020, GCS moved their training programme online and have also developed a comprehensive networking and briefing programme for governors. Between 1<sup>st</sup> September and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021, 2675 governor and clerking training places have been accessed in over 147 training, briefing and networking sessions. Since 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021, 1990 training places have been accessed in over 128 training, networking and briefing sessions. For the academic year 2022/23 we will be delivering a mixed blend of training, with the re-introduction of some face-to-face network sessions.

### **Clare Cornford**

#### **Project Officer: Governor and Clerking Service**

Contact Officer: Clare Cornford

Tel. No. 01323 466885

Email: [clare.cornford@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:clare.cornford@eastsussex.gov.uk)

### **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

None

**Appendix 1**  
**Governor Places and Vacancies in East Sussex local authority maintained schools**  
**Monitoring Report 2021-2022**

	2017/8 February	2017/8 April	2018/19 September	2018/19 January	2018/19 April	2019/20 September	2019/20 March	2020/21 March	2021/22 October	2021/22 January	2021/22 May
Governor Places at LA Maintained schools	1395	1395	1340	1340	1291	1252	1240	1256	1216	1202	1189
Vacancies (not including non gov HT)	226 (16.2%)	221(15.4 )	251 (18.7%)	234 (17.46%)	214 (16.57%)	235 (18.7%)	188 (15.1%)	188	214 (17.59%)	192 (15.9%)	176 (14.8%)
Schools with 25%+ vacancies	1	1	6 – start of term	4	6	8 (start of term)				4	
Head teachers who are not governors	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Head teachers who are governors	116	116	111	111	111	108	107	109	105	104	102
								0			
LA governor places	114	114	109	109	105	102	101	101	97	96	95
LA governor vacancies	13 (10.8%)	12 (10.5%)	10 (9.2%)	13 (11.9%)	13 (12.3%)	23 (22.5%)	12 (11.8%)	13 (12.9%)	12 (12.3%)	9 (9.34%)	11 (11.57%)
Parent governor places	274	274	266	266	251	243	241	243	230	227	225
Parent governor vacancies	35 (12.7%)	45 (16.4%)	43 (16.2%)	48 (18%)	43 (17.1%)	32 (13%)	24 (9.9%)	31 (12.76%)	30 (13%)	35 (15.4%)	33 (14.67%)
Staff governor places	114	114	109	109	105	102	101	102	97	96	95
Staff governor vacancies	17 (14.9%)	12 (10.5%)	18 (16.51)	14 (12.8%)	12 (11.4%)	11 (10.8%)	8 (7.9%)	13 (12.75)	12 (12.3%)	11 (11.3%)	10 (10.53%)
Co-opted governor places	502	502	490	490	473	456	456	452	447	441	437
Co-opted governor vacancies	109 (21.7%)	98 (19.5%)	108 (22%)	98 (20%)	88 (18.6%)	110 (24%)	93 (20.3%)	70 (15.49)	101 (22.5%)	85 (19.2%)	77 (17.62%)
Foundation governor places	269	269	255	255	246	241	234	249	240	238	235
Foundation governors vacancies	52 (19.3%)	52 (19.3%)	62 (24.31%)	61 (23.9%)	58 (23.5%)	59 (20.4%)	51 (21.7%)	61 (24.49%)	59 (24.5%)	52 (21.8%)	45 (19.14%)
New governors	183 (since 01/09/17)	204 (Since 01/09/17)	288 (1/09/17 – 31/08/18)	124 since 1/9/18	210 since 1/9/18	288 since 1/10/18.	135 since 1/9/19	183 new governor since 1/9/20	58 since 1/9/2021	116 since 1/9/2021	169 since 1/9/2021

			20 since 01/09/18			37 since 1/9/19					

**Report to:** County Consultative Committee

**Date of meeting:** 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022

**By:** Councillor Gally

**Title:** RE Update

**Purpose:** For members of the Committee to receive an update about RE in the County

---

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **1) To receive an update from Councillor Galley**

---

#### **1 Background**

1.1 For members of the Committee to receive an update from Councillor Galley

#### **2 Supporting information**

A new Agreed Syllabus for RE in East Sussex was approved by the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education in January.

This was launched formally on March 29<sup>th</sup> with 120 East Sussex schools being represented.

The syllabus sets out a full programme of activity for Key stages 1,2 and 3. A separate KS4 curriculum has been devised and circulated.

Training for teachers will follow in June and July with the new syllabus being implemented from September.

Members of Sacre are eager to visit schools in the Autumn and would welcome Governors being involved if they wish.

If the Consultative Committee would like more detail, we would, of course, be happy to provide it.

#### **3 Conclusion and reasons for recommendations**

3.1 For information

**Alison Jeffery**  
**Director of Children's Services**

Contact Officer: Clare Cornford  
Tel. No. 01323 466887  
Email: [clare.cornford@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:clare.cornford@eastsussex.gov.uk)

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None

**Report to:** County Consultative Committee

**Date of meeting:** 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022

**By:** Clare Cornford

**Title:** Governor local area forums

**Purpose:** For members of the Committee to review the attendance and feedback from the last round of local area forums. For members of the committee to hear about the proposed agenda items for the next round of local area forums.

---

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1) To note, attendance and feedback from the last round of meetings
  - 2) To be notified of the agenda for the next round of local area forums.
- 

### **1 Background**

1.1 For members of the Committee to review the attendance and feedback from the ESGF from the last round of local area forums. For members of the committee to hear about the agenda items for the next round of local area forums.

### **2 Supporting information**

2.1 Attendance at the Local Area Forums for the Academic Year 2020-2021 and 2021-2022.

The Local Area Forums moved online due to COVID. The number of sessions were reduced from 4 to 3 and the times changed to accommodate governor need.

<b>Spring 2021 Local Area Forum - Governor Wellbeing and Virtual Governance</b>	
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2021 from 14:00 – 16:00	27
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2021 from 18:00 – 20:00	24
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2021 from 10:00 – 12:00	31
	<b>82</b>
<b>Summer 2021 Local Area Forum – Communication with Stakeholders</b>	
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2021 from 18:00 – 20:00	30
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2021 from 10:00 – 12:00	13
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> June 2021 from 14:00 – 16:00	9

	<b>52</b>
<b>Autumn 2021 Local Area Forum – Ofsted Inspections are back – what Governors need to know.</b>	
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> October 2021 from 14:00 – 16:00	49
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2021 from 18:00 – 20:00	37
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2021 from 10:00 – 12:00	41
	<b>127</b>
<b>Spring 2022 Local Area Forum – System Leadership and School Improvement. Bookings already made</b>	<b>Numbers to date</b>
Local Area Forum: System Leadership – Hastings, Rother and Rye EIP	13
Local Area Forum: System Leadership - Ashdown and Lewes EIP	25
Local Area Forum: System Leadership - Eastbourne, Hailsham and Seaford EIP	11
Local Area Forum: System Leadership - Wealden EIP	18
Total to Date	<b>67</b>

The schools which attended each one of the Spring forums are as follows:

#### **Rother, Hastings and Rye EIP**

Battle and Langton Church of England Primary School - Governing Body
Ninfield CE Primary School - Governing Body
Robertsbridge Community College - Governing Body
Robertsbridge Community College - Governing Body
St Mary Star Of The Sea Catholic Primary School - Governing Board
St Mary Star Of The Sea Catholic Primary School - Governing Board
St Mary Star Of The Sea Catholic Primary School - Governing Board
St Michael's CE Primary School (Playden) - Governing Body
St Thomas' CE Primary School - Governing Body
St Thomas' CE Primary School - Governing Body
St Thomas' CE Primary School - Governing Body
The Genesis Federation (Beckley and Peasmarsh)

#### **Ashdown EIP**

Alfriston Primary School - Governing Body
Alfriston Primary School - Governing Body
Beacon Community College (Academy) - Governing Body
Chyngton School - Governing Body
Denton Community Primary School - Governing Body
Harbour Primary School - Governing Body
Harlands Primary School - Governing Body

Kings Academy Ringmer (Academy) - Governing Board
Meridian Primary School - Governing Body
Meridian Primary School - Governing Body
Newick CE Primary School - Governing Body
Priory School - Governing Body
Ringmer Primary School
Rocks Park Primary School - Governing Body
Seahaven Academy - Governing Body
South Malling CE Primary School - Governing Body
St Mary's Catholic Primary School (Crowborough) - Governing Body
St Michael's Primary School (Withyham) - Governing Body
St Pancras Catholic Primary School - Governing Body
The Bluebell Federation (Chailey St Peters and Fletching)
The Oaktree Federation (Firle and Laughton)
The Skylark Federation - Barcombe, Hamsey and Plumpton
Wallands Community Primary and Nursery School - Governing Body
Western Road Community Primary School
Western Road Community Primary School - Governing Body

### Wealden EIP

Cross in Hand CE Primary School - Governing Body
Harlands Primary School - Governing Body
High Hurstwood CE Primary School - Governing Body
High Hurstwood CE Primary School - Governing Body
Holy Cross CE Primary School - Governing Body
Little Horsted CE Primary School - Governing Body
Netherfield CE Primary School - Governing Body
Nutley CE Primary School - Governing Body
St Mark's CE Primary School (Hadlow Down) - Governing Body
St Philip's Catholic Primary School - Governing Body
St Thomas a Becket Church of England Federation - Blackboys and Framfield
St Thomas a Becket Church of England Federation - Blackboys and Framfield
St Thomas a Becket Church of England Federation - Blackboys and Framfield
The Sussex Spires Federation (All Saints and St Richards and Herstmonceux)
The Sussex Spires Federation (All Saints and St Richards and Herstmonceux)
The Woodlands Federation - Punnetts Town and Dallington
Uckfield College - Governing Body
Uckfield College - Governing Body

### Eastbourne EIP

Bourne Primary School - Governing Body
Claverham Community College - Governing Body
Gildredge House Free School
Hankham Primary - Governing Body
Heron Park Primary Academy - Governing Body
Langney, Parkland and Shinewater LGB
The Bluebell Federation (Chailey St Peters and Fletching)
The Cavendish School LGB
The Cavendish School LGB

The Cavendish School LGB
The Haven CE / Methodist Primary School - Governing Body

The Summer 2022 session will focus on Governing Boards Fit for the Future. These sessions will be facilitated by members of the ESGF and will focus on the following 4 areas:

1. **Succession Planning:** this section will focus on the role of the Chair and Vice Chair and the proactive steps that boards can take to ensure clear succession pathways.
2. **Leadership in the board:** this section will look at the distinction between 'link' governors and 'lead' governors and ask you to consider if members of your boards feel confident to lead on vital areas, thereby taking pressure off the Chair and Vice Chair and encouraging deeper relationships between all members of the board and school staff.
3. **Schools White Paper:** this section will look at the Schools White Paper, published in March, looking at the role of the local authority in the evolving education landscape.
4. **Clerk as Governance Professional:** the final section will look at the role of the clerk and ask you to consider whether the relationship between the clerk and the board is such that it is maximising their potential as a trusted adviser.

Title	Time	Date	Numbers
Local Area Forum – Governing Boards Fit for the Future	18:00-19:30	23/05/2022	20
Local Area Forum – Governing Boards Fit for the Future	10:00-11:30	24/05/2022	13
Local Area Forum – Governing Boards Fit for the Future	12:00-13:30	25/05/2022	9

### 3. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

- 3.1 To note any feedback from the ESGF from the last round of local area forums.

**Alison Jeffery**  
**Director of Children's Services**

Contact Officer: Clare Cornford  
 Tel. No. 01323 466887  
 Email: [clare.cornford@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:clare.cornford@eastsussex.gov.uk)

### BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None