



COUNTY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (GOVERNORS)

WEDNESDAY, 12 JULY 2023

3.00 PM REMOTE MEETING VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

MEMBERSHIP - Councillor Bob Standley (Chair)
Councillors Colin Belsey, Roy Galley, Phil Scott, and Alan Shuttleworth

ALSO INVITED - Karen Marr, Denise Kong, Jenny Barnard Langston, Monica Whitehead,
Monica Pell, John Murray, Clare Cornford, Charlotte Johnstone.
Minutes: Rosie O'Brien

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the previous meeting: 29 March 2023 (*Pages 3 - 4*)
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)
 - John Murray, Senior Manager: Leadership and Governance, Governor and Clerking Service.
6. Local Authority Governor Appointments and Governor Services Update (*Pages 5 - 6*)
 - Clare Cornford, Governor and Clerking Officer, Governor and Clerking Service.
7. ESCC Education Division Restructure - Further Update
 - John Murray, Senior Manager: Leadership and Governance, Governor and Clerking Service.
8. ESGF Verbal Update for Councillors to include:
 - Equality and Diversity. Also seeking Councillor perspective.
 - Celebration and Review of Good Governance.
9. County Consultative Committee 2023 - 2024
10. Any other items previously notified under agenda item 4

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4 July 2023

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County Consultative Committee - Minutes

Meeting: County Consultative Committee comprising of Councillors and East Sussex Governors’ Forum (ESGF).

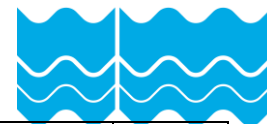
Date: 29th March 2023

Present: Councillors – Bob Standley (Chair), Colin Belsey, Roy Galley, Alan Shuttleworth.

ESCC Officers: Jessica Stubbings (JS), Clare Cornford (CC), Rosie O’Brien (RO) – Minutes.

Members of the ESGF: Karen Marr (KM), Stuart Ford (SF), Monica Pell (MP), Monica Whitehead (MWH), Denise Kong (DK).

Item	Decisions and Outcomes	Action
1	<u>Minutes of the Previous Meeting – 30th November 2022</u> The minutes were noted as a true record with no further comments.	
2	<u>Apologies for Absence</u> No apologies received.	
3	<u>Disclosure of Interests</u> No interests were declared.	
4	<u>Urgent items</u> No urgent items.	
5	<p><u>Academies Update (standing item)</u> Verbal update from JS. Since the last meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Haven CE Methodist Primary School joined the Diocese of Chichester Academy Trust (DCAT) from 1st March 2023. • Ninfield Church of England Primary School are in the process of joining DCAT and should have joined by 1st May 2023. <p>There have been information sessions for school governors to give more information on academisation. These sessions included presentations by representatives from academy trusts. More sessions are being planned for the summer term. ESCC will work with the Primary and Secondary boards regarding the input they wish to receive regarding more contact with academy trusts who have the potential to expand. There is potential for a larger event for schools with trusts who are considering expansion.</p> <p>ESGF Members added that they are aware of other trusts who are looking to expand into East Sussex, this included Kings Academies and United Learning Trust.</p>	
6	<p><u>Local Authority Governor Appointments and Governor Services Update</u> Update from CC. Since the last meeting there have been 3 Local Authority Governor appointments. All appointments were new applicants and included some strong applications. The Governor and Clerking Service has been working on embedding the new GovernorHub system for schools to book training and record governor details. There have been 42 new governors appointed since 1st January 2023. There has also been success with the governor recruitment campaign as 12 people have come forward expressing an interest in becoming a governor. JS added that the online training is more accessible which is helpful in improving attendance from governors.</p>	



7	<p><u>ESCC Education Division Update</u> Verbal update from JS.</p> <p>The Education Division is currently in the process of a restructure. SLES and ISEND will be brought together under one Education Division. The second phase has just been concluded and managers have been appointed. Phase three will launch in May. There are now three Heads of Education. Each of these will have a geographical focus, and a county wide strategic lead for key areas which are: participation and planning, SEND and Safeguarding, and Inclusion and Partnerships. In the future all three Heads will take turns attending the County Consultative Committee meetings.</p>	
8	<p><u>ESGF Verbal Update for Councillors</u> To include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behaviour problems in schools • Attendance <p>ESGF members brought to the Councillors' attention the difficulties currently experienced by schools regarding behaviour problems. This included an increase in permanent exclusions, and the effects behaviour problems are having on students and school staff. It was added that these issues seem to be exacerbated by social media as well as effects from the Coronavirus and national lockdown.</p> <p>ESGF members also discussed the attendance in schools currently and how pupils and parents seem to think that attendance at school is now less important.</p> <p>Governors reported that there is school to school support available but can be difficult to access, and outside agencies are also difficult to access.</p> <p>JS informed the ESGF members that the Local Authority is aware of these challenges and that support is offered to schools and headteachers. This includes training on therapeutic thinking, and a coaching programme including mentors available to headteachers.</p> <p>Cllr Shuttleworth added that it would be useful to evaluate what school staff are being asked to do and to take away tasks that are not essential to their role to relieve some pressure.</p>	
9	<p><u>Governor Local Area Forums and Chairs Networking – feedback and attendance</u> Verbal update.</p> <p>KM provided an update and informed the councillors that the Governor Local Area Forums and Chairs Networking's were well attended. Especially the SEND local area forums which included some new faces. The SEND session received good feedback and governors attending seemed to recognise the importance of inclusion and there was good discussion about how schools are supporting this. The sessions were all successful and had high levels of attendance.</p> <p>DK highlighted that the sessions included a range of new and experienced governors.</p>	
10	<p><u>Any other items previously notified under Agenda Item 4</u> No items.</p>	

Report to: County Consultative Committee

Date of meeting: 12th July 2023

By: Clare Cornford

Title: Local Authority Governor appointments and Governor and Clerking Service Update for Councillors

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

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 29th March 2023, 2 local authority governors were nominated for appointment, all were approved for a 4 year term of office. There was one new appointment and one reapplication.

Jennifer Cruse	Pashley Down Infant School	Reappointment
Hugh Jones	St Philips Catholic Primary School	New Appointment

2.2 The Governor and Clerking Service have now embedded the new GovernorHub System for booking training and recording governor details. Out of the 1198 governors in maintained schools, only 212 have not yet signed up to the new system and we are working with these governors to onboard them.

2.3 The team ran a total of 138 sessions for governors over the course of the academic year. This number includes 71 training sessions, 28 networking sessions, 39 briefing sessions and 6 Local Area Forums. There were 199 working days of the academic year 2022-2023, which means that 63% of the academic year has been dedicated to running the training programme. The Governor and Clerking Service will provide an annual training overview for the 2022-23 academic year at the next County Consultative Committee.

2.4 New sessions for the 2023-24 Academic year will include Governance of the Primary Curriculum, Evidencing Challenge, Leadership on the Board, the Pupil Premium, SEND sessions, Termly Clerk Networking and Minute Masterclass.

2.4 There have been 199 new governors appointed since the 1st September 2022 in maintained schools. There has also been some further success with the Governor Recruitment Campaign, with 21 people expressing an interest in becoming a governor since 1st January.

Clare Cornford
Project Officer: Governor and Clerking Service

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BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None