

LANCASHIRE SCHOOLS FORUM

Date of meeting 2 July 2020

Item No 3

Title: Forum Membership

Executive Summary

This report summarises the changes to the Forum membership since the last meeting.

Forum Decision Required

The Forum is asked to:

- a) Note the report, including the change in academy member places available on the Forum and the intention to undertake the nomination and election process to fill vacancies in the autumn term;**
- b) Welcome Karen Stracey to her first Forum meeting;**
- c) Thank Jill Wright, Lesley Millard and Jonathan Walker for their contribution to the Forum.**

Background

This report provides information on Forum membership issues that have arisen since the last Forum meeting. Details are provided below.

Schools Forum Annual Membership Review for September 2020

The Schools Forum regulations require that the balance of Forum membership is kept under review to ensure that the number of primary, secondary and academy members are reflective of the pupil population at those schools.

The latest breakdown of pupil numbers, based on the January 2020 census data, adjusted for known academy conversions and rounded to the nearest even number (to facilitate an equal split of headteacher/principal and governance members) is provided below:

<i>Phase</i>	<i>Current Membership</i>	<i>Adjusted pupil numbers January 2020</i>	<i>% of Adjusted pupils January 2020</i>	<i>Adjusted Membership September 2020</i>	<i>Variance</i>
Primary schools	22	97,055	57%	22	-
Secondary schools	10	40,270	24%	10	-
Academies	6	33,676	19%	8	2
Total	38	171,001	100%	40	2

Members may recall that the total number of maintained primary and secondary schools and academies places reduced to 38 at September 2019, down from 40 places in previous year. This was due to the maintained secondary membership tipping below the point where the rounding to the nearest even number provided a reduction from 12 to 10 places, but where the calculation did not suggest any change to the membership for academies or maintained primary schools.

For September 2020, the calculation provides for a further increase in the academy representation on the Forum, but does not require a reduction in maintained school numbers. It is therefore intended to increase the primary and secondary academy representation by two places to 10, which will return the total mainstream school places to 40.

Academy representatives have been asked to consider nominating one new principal and one new governor/trust member through their representative groups.

The number of places across these phases will continue to be reviewed going forward.

The Schools Forum annual membership review also seeks responses from schools representatives about whether members wish to continue on the Forum in the next academic year. A number of members have indicated that they will not be continuing on the Forum in September 2020 and this meeting will be their last.

Members leaving the Forum as part of this annual membership review include:

Jill Wright	Primary School Headteacher
Lesley Millard	Primary School Governor
Jonathan Walker	Primary School Governor

Members may also recall that the resignation of Brendan Hassett, Primary School Headteacher, was reported to the last meeting with an indication that the vacancy would be filled as part of the annual membership review.

Due to the current COVID-19 uncertainties responses from perspective Forum nominees have been limited and the LA has therefore decided to postpone the Forum nomination and election process until the autumn term 2020.

Primary School Governors

An existing primary school governor vacancy, following the previous resignation of Patricia Eastham, has recently been filled.

Karen Stracey, a governor from St Mary Magdalene's Roman Catholic Primary School, Burnley has joined the Forum.