

LANCASHIRE SCHOOLS FORUM

Date of meeting 20 October 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,**
- b) Welcome James Keulemans, Matt Eastham, Keith Wright, Ian Watkinson, Sarah Troughton, Karen Stephens and Phil Hart to their first Forum meeting;**
- c) Welcome Kathleen Cooper back to the Forum;**
- d) Thank Julie Gordon, Les Ridings, Dave Fann, Liz Lavery and Andrew Good for their contribution to the Forum;**
- e) Thank Christine Hurford for her contribution to the Forum and wish her well in her retirement.**

Background

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

Academy Representation

Members will be aware that the number of mainstream academy representatives on the Forum has increased by 2, to 8 members, from September 2020. This is due to the annual analysis of the balance of Forum membership based on the primary, secondary and academy pupil populations in Lancashire.

Kathleen Cooper, a governor at Bishop Rawstorne Academy has been nominated by the Academy Governors' Group to take up the governance/trust vacancy. Members will recall that Kathleen has been a longstanding Forum member in other school categories and has now formally accepted the academy governance/trust vacancy.

The Academy Heads' Group have nominated James Keulemans, Headteacher of Clitheroe Royal Grammar School and Matt Eastham, Headteacher at Penwortham Priory Academy as their representatives who will share the role and provide cover for other academy headteacher representatives.

Members will wish to welcome James and Matt to the Forum and welcome Kathleen back as the formal academy governor representative.

Primary Headteacher Vacancies

A number of nominees for the primary headteacher and primary governor vacancies on the Forum chose not to pursue their nominations in the summer term 2020, with most citing COVID-19 reasons for withdrawing.

A new nomination process has been launched for the autumn term 2020 and Keith Wright, Headteacher at Westgate Primary School has been appointed to the Forum:

A primary headteacher vacancy remains unfilled.

Members will wish to welcome Keith to the Forum.

Primary Governor Vacancies

6 nominations have been received for the primary governor vacancy on the Forum and an election process, in which all maintained primary school governing bodies are entitled to vote, will take place to determine the appointment.

NEU

The NEU have changed their Forum members and in future will be represented by either Ian Watkinson, Branch Chair or Sarah Troughton, Branch Secretary.

Previously Julie Gordon and Les Ridings were NEU Lancashire representatives.

Members will wish to thank Julie and Les for their contributions to the Forum and welcome Ian and Sarah as the formal NEU members.

NAHT

Karen Stephens, Lancashire Branch Secretary for NAHT is the new Forum representative, replacing Dave Fann.

Members will wish to thank Dave for his contributions to the Forum and welcome Karen.

ASCL

Phil Hart, the new ASCL Regional Officer for the North West has become the formal ASCL representative on the Forum, replacing Liz Laverty.

Liz intends to continue as a co-opted member of the Forum High Needs Block Working Group in her capacity as a short stay school governor.

Members will wish to thank Liz for her contributions to the Forum and welcome Phil.

Head of Schools Finance

Andrew Good, Head of Service for Development and Schools has left the County Council. Currently arrangements are being made to recruit to the vacant role. Until the recruitment process is complete, and an appointment made, the current interim arrangements are for Kevin Smith, Principal Account for Schools Finance to fulfil the role of Interim Head of Service relating to the area of schools.

Members will wish to thank Andrew for his contribution to the Forum and offer support to Kevin with his new role.

School Forum Finance Support Officer

Christine Hurford, School Forum Finance Support Officer is to retire shortly and the Forum meeting on 20 October 2020 will be her last. Christine has worked for the county council for over 17 years and has supported the work of the Forum since 2011. It is due to Christine's professionalism and efficiency that the Forum operates smoothly and effectively.

Members will wish to thank Christine for her contribution to the Forum and wish her well in her retirement.