

Item 5

Schools Forum Membership

Contact for further information:
Schools Forum Clerk
schoolsforum@lancashire.gov.uk

Brief Summary

This report provides information on the membership in line with the Schools Forum Regulations.

Recommendation

The Working Group is asked to:

- a) Note the information
- b) Express any views

Forum Membership Numbers

The Schools Forum regulations require that the balance of Forum membership for maintained primary schools, maintained secondary schools and academies is reviewed to ensure that the number of Forum representatives in these groups is proportionate to the pupil populations across the schools.

Now that the final October 2025 census numbers are available, the Forum membership has been reviewed against the latest pupil data, academy conversions post census date and conversions anticipated up until 31st March 2026. An analysis is provided below:

<i>Phase Phase</i>	<i>Current Membership Current Membership</i>	<i>NOR October 2026</i>	<i>% of NOR October 2026</i>	<i>Membership</i>	<i>Membership September 2026 (rounded to nearest even number)</i>	<i>Variance Variance</i>
Maintained Primary schools	22	85,538	50%	20.14	20	-2
Maintained Secondary schools	10	31,784	19%	7.49	8	-2
Academies	8	52,527	31%	12.37	12	4
Total	40	169,849	100%	40	40	0



Members will recall that the Forum membership for maintained primary schools, maintained secondary schools and academies is rounded to the nearest even number, so that an equal number of Headteacher/Principal and Governorship representatives can be appointed.

Due to the number of academy conversions in 2025/26, the data shows that a reduction in the number of maintained representatives and an increase of academy representatives is required from September 2026. It is envisioned this will be achieved naturally during the annual review process. If the reduction does not occur through the annual review, then schools members wish to continue, appointment date and term of office will be taken into account, and if necessary, lots will be drawn to identify which members are no longer able to serve on the Forum.

The county council is aware that there are a number of academy conversions planned during 2026 and will keep the membership balance under review ahead of the annual membership refresh for September 2026.

Annual Forum Membership Review

The annual membership review was recently distributed to members, this gives members the opportunity to continue or leave their Forum post from September 2026.

As part of the review, members have previously requested the geographic membership distribution across the authority to be reviewed. This showed each district within the county is represented by a maintained voting member on the Forum.

District	NOR % per district	Current Forum members per district	Forum membership based on NOR	Variance
1	18971	11%	3	5
2	14206	8%	1	3
4	8058	5%	1	2
6	23061	13%	7	6
7	16977	10%	6	4
8	15599	9%	5	4
9	16124	9%	4	4
11	16483	10%	4	4
12	15112	9%	2	4
13	14874	9%	5	4
14	11830	7%	4	3
Total	171295	100%	42	42



Please use the link below to let us know if you wish to continue as a forum member from September 2026, the deadline for submissions is 2nd April 2026.

[Lancashire Schools Forum Annual Membership Review for September 2026.](#)

In addition, please note voting members who failed to attend three consecutive meetings, without good reason or apologies, the Forum have the power to disqualify that member from continuing to hold office on the Forum. This will be reviewed following the March 2026 cycle of meetings, in line with the local Operational Arrangements.

The outcome of the review will be communicated to the Schools Forum in the Summer Term.

