

Wiltshire Council

Schools Forum 24th June 2010

Subject: Schools Forum Regulations 2010

Purpose of report

1. To outline the requirements of the Schools Forum Regulations 2010 and to agree the new constitution and Terms of Reference for Schools Forum.

Background

2. The Schools Forum (England) Regulations 2010 (Statutory Instrument No 344/2010) revokes and replaces the Schools Forum (England) Regulations (2002), as amended, with a few changes principally relating to the membership of Schools Forums.
3. The regulations are made under Section 47A and 138(7) of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.
4. The regulations came in to force on 1 April 2010 and Schools Forums need to be reconstituted by 1 September 2010. The constitution of Schools Forum needs to be agreed by Cabinet.

Main considerations for Schools Forum

5. The main changes arising from the new Regulations relate to the membership of Schools Forum and specifically to Academies and non-school members.
6. There is a new requirement to have at least one Academy member on a Schools Forum where there are Academies in the local authority's area. The Academy member(s) represents the governing bodies of the Academies situated in the authority's area, so does not necessarily have to be a Principal or a governor. It is for the governing bodies of the Academies concerned to elect the member(s). Currently in Wiltshire there are two Academies, it is proposed that there should be one Academies member on Schools Forum.
7. There is a new requirement on the local authority to appoint a schools or Academy member where an election for these members does not take place by any date set by the authority or an election results in a tie between two or more members.
8. A small number of Schools Forums do not have non-school members. In the new regulations it becomes a requirement for Schools Forums to appoint members in this category. The constitution for Wiltshire Schools Forum already incorporates non-school members from the early years PVI

sector, and the diocese. It will now be a requirement to have a voting member from the 14-19 partnership.

Environmental impact of the proposal

9. None anticipated

Equalities impact of the proposal

10. Schools Forums should be more representative of the schools and other bodies affected by decisions on Schools Budget funding.

Financial implications

11. None.

Legal implications

12. Outlined within the report

Proposal

13. It is proposed that in accordance with the Schools Forum regulations 2010 an Academy representative is sought for Schools Forum.

14. It is proposed that a member of the 14-19 partnership is appointed as a full member of Schools Forum

15. It is proposed that the constitution and Terms of Reference for Schools Forum (Appendix 1) are agreed and recommended to Cabinet.

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Background papers

The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this report: None

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Schools Forum Terms of Reference
