
**Report to
City Council**

16 September 2008

Report of Director Children, Learning and Young People

Title

Appointment of a Local Authority Representative to the Governing Body of the Grace Academy Coventry

1 Purpose of the Report

To nominate a local authority representative to the Governing Body of the Grace Academy Coventry.

2 Recommendation

That the City Council nominates Councillor Lynnette Kelly as the Local Authority Governor on the Governing Body of the Grace Academy.

3 Information/Background

3.1 At its meeting on 11th March, 2008, Cabinet agreed that nominations to the position of local authority governor on the governing bodies of Academies should take the form of an appointment to an outside body.

3.2 Academies are publicly funded independent schools established by the Secretary of State enlisting the support of sponsors, who through providing expertise, can help the school raise students' achievements. They are set up as companies limited by guarantee under a charitable trust arrangement which is responsible for the building and running of the Academy and has control over the land and other assets.

3.3 The Grace Academy Coventry opened on 1 September 2008 to replace the former Woodway Park School and Community College which closed at the end of the Summer term 2008.

3.4 Academy governing bodies are made up of trustees (appointed by the sponsor) who form the majority of the membership, the Academy Principal (ex officio), a local authority representative and at least one elected parent representative. The DCSF does not prescribe the number of governors on an Academy governing body and it may also include a teacher governor, a staff governor and community representatives. The

governing body is accountable to the Secretary of State through the provisions of the funding agreement.

3.5 The governing body is established under the Academy's Memorandum and Articles of Association as part of the funding agreement.

3.6 The governing body of the Academy will have responsibility for:

- The employment of Academy staff
- The appointment of the Principal
- Administration of the Academy's finances
- Authorisation of appointments or changes to terms and conditions
- Approval of personnel policies and procedures

4 Proposal and Other Option(s) to be Considered

It is proposed to nominate Councillor Lynnette Kelly as the City Council's representative on the governing body of the Grace Academy.

As an appointment to an outside body it will be reviewed annually at the Annual Meeting of the City Council. Councillor Kelly was previously a governor of the former Woodway Park School and Community College and is a Councillor for the Henley Ward in which the Academy is situated.

5 Other specific implications

5.1

	Implications (See below)	No Implications
Best Value		✓
Children and Young People	✓	
Climate Change & Sustainable Development		✓
Comparable Benchmark Data		✓
Corporate Parenting		✓
Coventry Community Plan		✓
Crime and Disorder		✓
Equal Opportunities		✓
Finance		✓
Health and Safety		✓
Human Resources		✓
Human Rights Act		✓
Impact on Partner Organisations		✓

	Implications (See below)	No Implications
Information and Communications Technology		✓
Legal Implications	✓	
Neighbourhood Management		✓
Property Implications		✓
Race Equality Scheme		✓
Risk Management		✓
Trade Union Consultation		✓
Voluntary Sector – The Coventry Compact		✓

5.2 Children and Young People

The rationale behind the proposals for Academies is based on enlisting the support of sponsors who through providing their own expertise can help the school to raise the achievement of its students and promote learning across the community. The Academy should therefore enhance the experiences of young people within its community and City Council membership of the governing body will enable a contribution to the decisions of the governing body in relation to its legal responsibilities and help further educational opportunities for the Academy's students.

5.3 Legal Implications

Academy governors are bound by law to act in the best interest of the Academy, its pupils and the local community. The governing body is accountable to the Secretary of State. Governors are also accountable to parents in the same way as governors of maintained schools and have responsibilities which include those set out in paragraph 3.6 above.

6 Monitoring

6.1 A process for representatives nominated to outside bodies to report back to the Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee on the work of that body is in place. This facilitates an annual review of the continuing value of each appointment to ensure that Council representation on outside bodies delivers mutual benefit and value.

	Yes	No
Key Decision		✓
Scrutiny Consideration (if yes, which Scrutiny meeting and date)		
Council Consideration (if yes, date of Council meeting)	✓ 16 September 2006	

List of background papers

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