

Cabinet Member (Education)

16 July 2013

Name of Cabinet Member:

Cabinet Member (Education) - Councillor Kershaw

Director Approving Submission of the report:

Director of Children, Learning and Young People

Title:

Dissolution of the Federated Governing Body for Alice Stevens, Baginton Fields and Sherbourne Fields Schools and the establishment of Single Governing Bodies for each school.

Is this a key decision?

No

Executive Summary:

The Federated Governing Body was established as a vehicle for implementing the Secondary Broad Spectrum Inclusion Strategy approved by the Council in 2005. Since that time the federated governing body has been working toward implementing the Broad Spectrum Strategy and has secured through the Governments Priority Schools Building Programme the delivery of the first Broad Spectrum Secondary School with the rebuilding of the Alice Stevens School, which will have governance arrangements under a single governing body.

The remaining schools in the federation have determined that in order to achieve the Broad Spectrum Strategy there needs to be a strategic partnership in place that includes the primary special schools and that this is best achieved through a Partnership Board rather than a federated governing body. The schools have therefore determined to dissolve the federation.

The School Governance (Federations) England Regulations 2012 requires that the Local Authority establishes temporary governing bodies for schools leaving a federation. This report therefore seeks Cabinet Member approval to establish temporary governing bodies for the three schools and to appoint the temporary governors to these bodies in time for the new academic year.

The governing council's and headteachers of the three schools have been consulted on the size and composition of the temporary governing bodies being recommended as well as on potential governors to serve on these governing bodies.

Recommendations:

- (1) To approve the establishment of temporary governing bodies for Alice Stevens, Baginton Fields and Sherbourne Fields Schools.
- (2) To appoint the members outlined in the appendix to the report as temporary governors for each school.
- (3) To approve the establishment of a cross-phase Partnership Board to deliver the Local Authority's Broad Spectrum School Strategy.

List of Appendices included:

Temporary Governing Body Constitutions and names of governors to be appointed.

Other useful documents:

The School Governance (Federations) (England) Regulations 2012
The School Governance (New Schools) (England) Regulations 2007
Available from <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/>

Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

No

Has it been or will it be considered by any other Council Committee, Advisory Panel or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

No

Report title:

Dissolution of the Federated Governing Body for Alice Stevens, Baginton Fields and Sherbourne Fields Schools and the establishment of Single Governing Bodies for each school.

1. Context (or background)

1.1 The current Governance arrangements for three special schools, Alice Stevens, Baginton Fields and Sherbourne Fields are no longer considered to be fit for purpose and require change. To achieve the desired outcome the current federated governing body is to dissolve and individual governing bodies are to be established.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal

2.1 The federated governing body at its meeting on 7 May 2013 considered alternatives to dissolution that included only Alice Stevens School de-federating, expanding the federation to include primary special schools and dissolution of the federation. Following discussion it was agreed to dissolve the federation and to request that the Local Authority make arrangements to enable this to happen.

2.2 The decision to dissolve the federation is a decision solely for the federated governing body and the respective school governing councils to make and is in accordance with the Federation Regulations 2012. On making the decision to dissolve the federation the next step is for the Local Authority to establish the temporary governing bodies and to appoint the temporary governors to these bodies. This report sets out the process for implementing the decision of the federation.

2.3 The New Schools Regulations require that the Local Authority establishes temporary governing bodies for each of the three schools who are leaving the federation and also requires the Local Authority to appoint the governors to these temporary governing bodies within a set framework and timescale.

2.4 In determining the size and composition of the temporary governing bodies the Local Authority sought the views of the respective governing councils, Headteachers and federation governing body members as to the most appropriate size. They were also asked for recommendations on names to be appointed as temporary governors.

2.5 RECOMMENDATION

- 1) The size and composition of the respective temporary governing bodies be as follows;
 - a) Alice Stevens School: Nine Governors comprising, three parent governors, two staff governors (including the Headteacher), two Local Authority governors and two community governors.
 - b) Sherbourne Fields School: Ten Governors comprising, three parent governors, three staff governors (including the Headteacher), two Local Authority governors and two community governors.
 - c) Baginton Fields School: Ten Governors comprising, three parent governors, three staff governors (including the Headteacher), two Local Authority governors and two community governors
- 2) The named temporary governors listed in appendix one be appointed to each of the respective temporary governing bodies until permanent governing bodies are in place.

- 3) To establish a cross-phase Partnership Board to deliver the Local Authority's Broad Spectrum School Strategy, the determination of the composition and constitution of the Partnership Board to be delegated to the Assistant Director, Education and Learning Services.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

- 3.1 The governing councils and Headteachers of Alice Stevens, Baginton Fields and Sherbourne Fields Schools have been consulted on both the size and composition of the temporary governing bodies as well as on names of potential temporary governors.
- 3.2 In the majority of cases we have accepted the recommendations of the governing councils and the Headteachers when determining the size and composition of the temporary governing bodies.
- 3.3 In the case of Alice Stevens School the Local Authority is of the view that governance is not strong enough or well enough equipped to deal with the demands of the new Ofsted Inspection framework despite support and training given in recent months. We have therefore recommended temporary governors who have not, in the main, been governors at the school previously.

4. Timetable for implementing this decision

- 4.1 The temporary governing bodies will be in place for the start of the new school year, that is from 1 September 2013.

5. Comments from Director of Finance and Legal Services

5.1 Financial implications

There are no financial implications

5.2 Legal implications

The School Governance (Federations)(England) Regulations 2012 require, where a governing body of a federation decide that the federation is to be dissolved, that upon receipt of the required notice the Local Authority MUST establish a temporary governing body and issue a new instrument of government for each school. When carrying out duties relating to the constitution of the governing bodies the Local Authority must have regard to the statutory, "Guidance For Governing Bodies, Local Authorities, School Leaders in England and Governor Organisations and Other Organisations with an Interest".

6. Other implications

The Local Authority will inform the current governing council members for Alice Stevens School of the recommendation not to appoint the majority of current members to the temporary governing body.

6.1 How will this contribute to achievement of the Council's key objectives / corporate priorities (corporate plan/scorecard) / organisational blueprint / Local Area Agreement (or Coventry Sustainable Community Strategy)?

The proposals support the continued drive to implement the Broad Spectrum Special School Strategy approved in 2005.

6.2 Implications for partner organisations?

There is no impact on partner, communities, Compact, organisations / voluntary organisations, community safety issues or local neighbourhoods

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Contributor/approver name	Title	Directorate or organisation	Date doc sent out	Date response received or approved
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Roger Lickfold	Strategic Leader	Children, Learning and Young People	12 June 13	21 June 13
David Haley	Assistant Director	Children, Learning and Young People	12 June 13	16 June 13
Names of approvers for submission: (officers and Members)				
Rachael Sugars	Finance Manager	Finance and Legal Services	20 June 13	21 June 13
Elaine Atkins	Legal Services	Finance and Legal Services	20 June 13	8 July 13
Colin Green	Director	Children, Learning and Young People	20 June 13	21 June 13
Councillor Kershaw	Cabinet Member (Education)		20 June 13	24 June 13
Councillor Howells	Deputy Cabinet Member (Education)		20 June 13	24 June 13
Neelesh Sutaria	Human Resources Manager	Children, Learning and Young People	20 June 13	21 June 13
Michelle Salmon	Governance Services Officer	Customer and Workforce Services	20 June 13	21 June 13

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Alice Stevens School Temporary Governing Body (Nine Governors)

Staff Governors (two)

Mr Stephen Garside (Headteacher)
To be confirmed by Headteacher

Local Authority Governors (two)

Councillor Hazel Noonan
Councillor David Kershaw

Parent Governors (three)

To be nominated by the Headteacher

Community Governors (two)

Mrs Julia Bond
Mrs Lyn Kingston

Baginton Fields School Temporary Governing Body (Ten Governors)

Staff Governors (three)

Simon Grant (Headteacher)
Alison Francis
Tracey Robertson

Local Authority Governors (two)

Councillor Ken Taylor
Claire Nash

Parent Governors (three)

Rashpal Singh
James Moore
Helen Wilcock

Community Governors (two)

Geoff Lockett
Kala Patel

Sherbourne Fields School Temporary Governing Body (Ten Governors)

Staff Governors (three)

Shivaun Moriarty (Associate headteacher)
Keelie Hill
Claire Hope

Local Authority Governors (two)

Roger Hughes
Dave Rounsley

Parent Governors (three)

Jayne McNulty
Samantha Jarrett
Mandy Crilly

Community Governors (two)

David Jackson
Jenny Redshaw