

Outside Bodies Committee

4 April 2012

Present: Councillor CA Gambling (Chair)
Mrs L Arkley, Elected Mayor and Councillors B Burdis, Mrs S E Mortimer, N Redfearn and B Pickard

OB40/04/12 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors J M Allan and A Arkle.

OB41/04/12 Changes to Committee Membership

It was noted that Councillors B Burdis and N Redfearn had replaced Councillors A Arkle and J M Allan for this meeting only.

OB42/04/12 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest reported.

OB43/04/12 Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 February 2012 be confirmed.

OB44/04/12 Analysis of Authority Governor Vacancies

The Committee considered a report which provided an analysis of Authority Governor vacancies.

Historically, North Tyneside's percentage of Authority Governor vacancies had been the highest year on year of all its statistical neighbours who had presented data since 2007/08. However, in 2012/11 there had been a marked reduction in the number of vacancies due to a recruitment campaign. This had reduced the percentage of Authority vacancies down to 5.9% on March 2011. This was the lowest ever recorded in North Tyneside since national benchmarking had begun in 2007/08 and was the best compared with the statistical neighbours and well below the national average of 10.2%.

The Committee was informed that the number of elected Members who were Authority governors was currently quite low.

The report indicated that an increase in vacancies had occurred since March 2011 due to a number of factors, including the following:

- Terms of office had expired and governors had not wished to continue.
- Resignations.
- Some governors pursuing the Community or Foundation route rather than the Authority route.
- Some existing Authority Governors had moved to Foundation category at their own request.

- No extensive recruitment campaign since Autumn 2012.

The report outlined the status of Authority Governors appointed by the Committee since January 2012, five of whom had since resigned.

The report also outlined action being taken or planned to fill vacancies as follows:

- The establishment of an automatic enquiry link from the Council's website which allowed members of the public to express interest in becoming a governor.
- Promotion of vacancies with businesses in the area.
- Promotion of good news stories in local/regional press.
- Follow up governors whose terms of office had expired in other categories, but who had indicated a willingness to continue.
- Revisiting Widening Horizons and the Council's Recruitment website as sources of attracting governors.
- Continuing to work with One Stop Governor Shop.
- Recruitment of more elected Members as Authority Governors.

The Committee thanked the Governor Services Manager and her team for their efforts in filling governor vacancies.

Resolved that (1) the report be noted; and
(2) the Governor Services Manager send a list of Authority Governor vacancies to all Members of the Council with a view to encouraging more elected Members to become Authority Governors.

OB45/04/12 Exclusion Resolution

Resolved that under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and having applied a public interest test as defined in Part 2 of Schedule 12A of the Act, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.'

OB46/04/12 Papers Submitted for Information

The following papers, submitted for information, were noted:

- Principles of an Authority Governor
- Role of an Authority Governor
- Authority Governors including Vacancies
- All Governors for each School, including Vacancies

OB47/04/12 Authority Governor Appointments

A schedule was submitted, for consideration by the Committee, detailing 2 applications received for appointment to the position of Authority Governor. The appointments were for the statutory 4 year period.

Details of each governing body's current membership were also provided for information.

Members considered each application in turn, with any issues/questions being responded to by Officers.

RESOLVED that the following applications for appointment to the position of Authority Governor be approved, with immediate effect:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>
Ms N Cartwright	Burnside Business and Enterprise College
Ms F Melvin	Stephenson Memorial Primary School

OB48/04/12 Authority Governor Re-Appointments

A schedule was submitted, for consideration by the Committee, detailing 4 applications received for re-appointment to the position of Authority Governor. The appointments were for the statutory four-year period.

Details of the governing body's current membership in each case was provided for information, together with meeting attendance records for the applicants.

Members considered the applications, with any issues/questions being responded to by Officers.

RESOLVED that the following applications for re-appointment to the position of Authority Governor be approved:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>APPOINTMENT COMMENCING</u>
Miss J Reay	Amberley Primary School	14 May 2012
Councillor L Birkenfield	St Bartholomew's C of E Primary School	11 June 2012
Mr A Bojke	Silverdale School	14 July 2012
Mr M Slassor	Ivy Road Primary School	22 July 2012