



North Tyneside
Council

Item 2a

Briefing Notes

To:	Schools Forum	Author:	Christina Ponting / Diane Thompson
Date:	17 January 2024	Purpose of the Paper:	Information ✓
			Consultation ✓
			Decision ✓

Title of Briefing: Review of Schools Forum Membership

1. Background:

- 1.1. Schools Forum in September 2023, noted that due to a proposed status change of a number of Schools (from a Voluntary Aided/ Maintained School to Academy) in November 2023 and January 2024, Schools Forum needed to review its membership to determine if membership changes were required.
- 1.2. Schools Forum last reviewed its membership, in November 2021 when a number of Roman Catholic Faith Schools converted to Academy status; this review resulted in an additional Academy representative being added to Schools Forum. Table 1 below notes the information that was presented to Schools Forum at that time:

Table 1 – 2021 Review

As November 2021			
Sector	Pupils	% of Pupils	Members from Nov 21
Nursery/Primary/First (including Nursery)	12,393	45%	11
Middle/Secondary	9,221	33%	7
Special (including PRU)	759	3%	2
Academy	5,370	19%	4
Total	27,743	100%	24

The Current membership of Schools Forum is noted in Appendix B.

2. Current Position:

- 2.1. As Schools Forum members are aware, whilst there are a number of different 'categories' of member within Schools Forum the individual 'post holder' is not in the role to represent their individual school or organisation. Each post holder is required to represent their sector or locality.
- 2.2. The change of the status of a number of Primary Schools to convert to academy status from 1st January 2024 (Denbigh, Hadrian Park & Battle Hill Primary (1131 pupils); Whitehouse Primary (185 pupils)) and 1st November 2023 (John Spence (848 pupils)) has resulted in 2164 pupils now being educated in an Academy School. There is also one Academy conversion remains planned for March 2024 which will see just under 400 pupils move from a financially maintained school to an Academy.
- 2.3. There were 13 Academy Schools within North Tyneside at the beginning of the 2023/24 Academic year, 5 schools have since converted resulting in there now being 17 Academy schools at 1st January 2024. (Please note, with the exception of the pending/in-line for 1st March 2024 Academy conversion as noted above this report does not factor in any further planned Academy conversions for the remainder of the 2023/24 Academic year).
- 2.4. It is proposed, due to the movement of pupil numbers from the maintained to the Academy sector School Forum increases its overall membership numbers by allocating additional Schools Forum representative roles to 'Other School Members – Non Locality Based' and thereby increasing the Academy representative roles from 4 to 6.
- 2.5. Table 2 presents information on the pupil numbers on the same basis as data presented/ considered in 2018 and 2021 review by Schools Forum.

Table 2 – Proposed 2021/22 Review

2024 Review			
	Option 1		
Sector	Pupils	% of Pupils	Members from Jan 24
Nursery/Primary/First (including Nursery)	12,319	40%	11
Middle/Secondary	9,584	31%	7
Special	783	3%	2
Academy	8,118	26%	6
Total	30,804	100%	26

- 2.6. The proposed changes to the current membership of Schools Forum to accommodate 2 additional 'Other School Members – Non Locality Based' are noted/ highlighted in Appendix C.

3. Next Steps:

- 3.1. If Schools Forum members agree with the recommendation contained within this report, the updated membership would replace the current membership and new Academy members would be expected to join School Forum with immediate effect and attend from the next available meeting (20th March 2024).
- 3.2. Academy schools as a collective determine who their representatives are. New members will be offered support in their role with an Induction/Update session (in line with support offered to all Schools Forum members) which ideally can take place before the next meeting in March 2024
- 3.3. The membership of Schools Forum will be kept under review; so that roles on Schools Forum remain representative of the categories/ types of School operating within the North Tyneside Council area and in accordance with the ESFA Good Practice Guidance for Schools Forums

4. Recommendations:

- 4.1. Having read this report and clearly understanding the information provided, Schools Forum is asked to:
1. Note the content of this report;
 2. Consider the proposal noted and to reach agreement on the recommendation of increasing the 'Other School Members – Not locality based' by 2 to accommodate the addition of new Academy representative roles onto Schools Forum;
 3. Nominate an Academies Schools Forum member to take the lead on selecting the new members and to confirm once they have been appointed.
- 4.2. Members are reminded of who is eligible to vote and the voting table is noted at Appendix A for Reference.

Appendix A – Voting Table

North Tyneside Schools Forum Member Roles & Voting								<i>last updated September 2019</i>		
de-delegation Primary	de-delegation Secondary	scheme for financing schools	consultation on funding formula	General Duties	Retained Duties	all other matters				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				
Voting							Phase	Role		
School Members										
x		x	x	x	x	x	First	Head		
x		x	x	x	x	x	Primary	Head		
	x	x	x	x	x	x	High	Head		
	x	x	x	x	x	x	Middle	Head		
	x	x	x	x	x	x	Secondary	Head		
Other School Members Non Locality Based										
x		x	x	x	x	x	Primary/ First	Governor		
	x	x	x	x	x	x	Secondary/Middle	Governor		
		x	x	x	x	x	Nursery	Head		
		x	x	x	x	x	PRU	Head		
		x	x	x	x	x	Special	Head		
			x		x	x	Academy	Other		
Non Schools Members Non Locality Based										
		x	x			x	16-19 Providers	Other		
			x			x	EY PVI	Other		
						x	C of E Diocese	Other		
						x	RC Diocese	Other		
						x	Trades Union	Other		

Appendix C – Proposed Changes to Membership

Membership as at		January 2024										
North West						North East						
Phase	Role	Name	School	Term Ends	Number	Phase	Role	Name	School	Term Ends	Number	
Primary	Head	Stephen Baines	Holystone Primary	Jan-26	1	Primary	Head	Finn Wilcock	Southridge First	Oct-24	1	
Primary	Head	Claire Withers	Fordley Primary	May-24	1	First	Head	Colleen Ward	Coquet Park First	Oct-24	1	
Secondary	Head	Kelly Holbrook	Longbenton	Sep-24	1	Secondary	Head	Steve Wilson	Whitley Bay High	Jul-24	1	
						Middle	Head	John Newport	Marden Bridge	May-25	1	
					TOTAL						TOTAL	4
					3							
South West						South East						
Phase	Role	Name	School	Term Ends	Number	Phase	Role	Name	School	Term Ends	Number	
Primary	Head	Rob Harker	Carville	May-24	1	Primary	Head	Gavin Storey	Cullercoats	Jul-26	1	
Primary	Head			Sep-25	1	Primary	Head	Laura Baggett	Monkhouse	May-24	1	
Secondary	Head	Paul Johnson	Churchill	Oct-24	1	Secondary	Head	Matt Snape	Marden High	Oct-24	1	
					TOTAL						TOTAL	3
					3							
Other School members - Not locality based												
Phase	Role	Name	School	Term Ends	Number							
Primary/First	Governor	John Ord	Greenfields	Nov-26	1							
Primary/First	Governor	Gillian Tawes	Backworth Park Primary & Shiremoor Primary Schools	Dec-26	1							
Secondary/Middle	Governor	Lesley Griffin	Wellfield Middle	Apr-25	1							
Secondary/Middle	Governor	Jane Lowe	Monkseaton Middle	Nov-26	1							
Nursery	Head	John Croft	Sir James Knott	Jan-25	1							
PRU	Head	Karen Croskery	Moorbridge	Feb-25	1							
Special	Head	Peter Gannon	Silverdale	Feb-25	1							
Academy			vacant	Mar-27	1							
Acaedmy				Mar-27	1							
Academy	Other	Kerry Lilico	Grasmere	Feb-25	1							
Academy	Other	David Watson	St Thomas More RC High	Feb-25	1							
Academy	Other	Colette Bland	St Mary's RC Primary (NS)	Feb-25	1							
Academy	Other	Philip Sanderson	Kings Priory	May-24	1							
					TOTAL							
					13							
Non School members												
Phase	Role	Name	School	Term Ends	Number							
16-19 providers	Other	Diane Turner	Tyne Metropolitan College	Dec-25	1							
EYPVI	Other	Joanne Thompson	Holystone Out of School	Dec-24	1							
C of E Diocese	Other	Louise Bradford	Christ Church C of E Primary	Nov-24	1							
RC Diocese	Other	Anthony Gollings	St Thomas More RC Academy	Feb-25	1							
Trades Union	Other	Phil Kemp	Trade Union	May-24	1							
					TOTAL							
					5							
					Overall							
					31							
						Membership Summary						
							Number	% Overall	<i>First/Primary</i>	8		
						School	13	46%	<i>Middle/Secondary</i>	5		
						School-Non Locality	13	32%	<i>Academy</i>	6		
						Non-School	5	21%		19		
						Total	31	100%				
						Quorate		40%		12		