

School Forum Representation

Introduction

We have received an enquiry regarding the membership of School Forum and the process used to elect members. The process for recruiting members has always been open and transparent with an annual review of the member positions based on pupil numbers and contact with schools at the point of seeking new representatives.

All existing members have been recruited through the process of schools nominations. Unfortunately we have never been in the position to have more nominations than positions, so a vote at this stage has not been required.

Some members have gained considerable experience as board members and have served as consistent representatives spanning over a number of years.

Terms of Reference

- 6. The term of office for members of the Schools Forum will be a maximum of three years, subject to their eligibility. At the end of their term of office, individuals may stand down or the group they represent may replace them. There is no limit to the number of consecutive terms of office an individual may serve, subject to their eligibility. :*

<https://www.torbay.gov.uk/DemocraticServices/documents/s62904/Draft%20Schools%20Forum%20Terms%20of%20Reference%20Nov%2018.pdf> (available on the council website)

Position

In line with our terms of reference, we need to review the position of members and formally ask the sector to adopt these representatives as their nominated members. Due to this being a historic issue, this will impact on the majority of Forum Members.

There is a considerable risk that as a consequence we could lose a significant wealth of experience and momentum of work. However it is an important issue to address.

Recommendation and Decisions

It is requested that Schools Forum:

1. Write out to all schools to ask them to vote in members or propose representatives that can then be taken to a vote.

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