

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

PEOPLE CABINET MEMBER

APPOINTMENT OF AUTHORITY SCHOOL GOVERNORS

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To consider the appointment of persons to serve as authority governors for governing bodies.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 There are currently **26** authority school governor vacancies. This equates to **13%** of the total number of authority governors in North Lincolnshire. The national average for authority vacancies currently stands at **12%**.
- 2.2 The vacancy rates over the year are in line with the national average and in order to ensure that vacancy rates are minimised recruitment information is available on the council's website.
- 2.3 Authority governors are expected to play a key role regarding school improvement by supporting the council's ambitions and policies which will help raise standards and improve outcomes for children and young people.
- 2.4 In order to appoint the best available authority governors, applicants are required to complete a detailed application form which helps identifies their suitability to undertake the role of authority governor.
- 2.5 Each application is assessed against a predefined 'authority governor specification'. This ensures that, wherever possible, the most suitable applicant is appointed to the most relevant school.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 **Option 1:** To appoint applicants to designated schools and to re – appoint those authority governors whose current term of office has ended.
- 3.2 **Option 2:** To not appoint applicants to any school.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

4.1 Option 1:

4.1.1 This option seeks to match each applicant to the most appropriate school based on their skills, knowledge and experience. This matching process provides the opportunity for each authority governor to maximise the use of their abilities to improve outcomes for children and young people.

4.1.2 Where possible this option takes into account the applicants preference to serve on a specific school. Applicants that meet the essential requirements as defined by the authority governor specification may be appointed to their preferred school or alternative schools. It is important to make sure that, if possible, an applicant's skills and abilities are used in a school where they are likely to make the biggest impact.

4.1.3 The appointment of applicants would reduce the number of authority governor vacancies within North Lincolnshire from **26** to **20**. This equates to an **11%** vacancy rate, which is below the national average.

4.2 Option 2

4.2.1 If an applicant was not appointed, the authority vacancy levels would not be reduced. However, the appointment is based on the applicant meeting the essential requirements defined in the authority governor specification and having the required schools to meet the needs of a particular school. It would not be appropriate to appoint candidates who were not able to undertake the duties required by authority governors.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)

5.1 None.

6. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

6.1 An integrated impact assessment has not been undertaken in respect of this decision. The appointment of authority governors is determined in accordance with the Education School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2007.

7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

7.1 None

8. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 It is recommended that option 1 be implemented.

DIRECTOR OF PEOPLE

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report: None