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Date: 11 November 2011

Dear Member

SELECTION AND MEMBER SERVICES COMMITTEE - FRIDAY, 18 NOVEMBER 2011

I am now able to enclose, for consideration at next Friday, 18 November 2011 meeting of the Selection and Member Services Committee, the following report that was unavailable when the agenda was printed.

Agenda No	Item
5	**Proposed amendment to Governor Appointments Panel officer delegations (TO FOLLOW) (Pages 1 - 2)**

Yours sincerely

Peter Sass
Head of Democratic Services

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By: Alex King, Deputy Leader
Peter Sass, Head of Democratic Services

To: Selection and Member Services Committee – 18 November 2011

Subject: Governor Appointments Panel Officer Delegations

Summary: This report invites the Committee to confirm that the Corporate Director of Education, Learning and Skills has delegated powers (in consultation with the Chairman of the Governor Appointments Panel) to appoint and remove LEA Governors in urgent cases.

Introduction

(1) The Governor Appointments Panel carries out the function on behalf of this Committee of appointing and removing LEA Governors to and from School governing bodies.

(2) The Governor Appointments Panel meets five times a year. This means that, on occasion, it has proved necessary for Area Education Officers to make urgent appointments and removals in between Panel meetings. These have then been reported to, and ratified at, the next meeting of the Panel.

(3) Following the recent reorganisation, the Education, Learning and Skills Directorate scheme of officer delegations is in the process of being redrafted. It is therefore necessary in the meantime to clarify that there is delegated authority for urgent appointments and removals to be made by the Area Education Officers.

(4) A training need has been identified for Officers and Members around the provisions for taking non-executive function decisions in urgent circumstances.

(5) There is a clear need for appointments and removals to be made in situations of self-evident urgency. Examples of such a need are if a failing school needs an injection of experience or if a Governor is plainly acting in a manner which is inappropriate and intends to continue to do so.

Recommendation

(6) The Committee is asked to:

(i) agree that the Corporate Director of Education, Learning and Skills has delegated authority (in consultation with the Chairman of the Governor Appointments Panel) to appoint and remove LEA Governors in urgent cases
(ii) note the need for training for Officers and Members in respect of decision-making powers in matters outside the County Council's executive functions

Andrew Tait
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