

# APPENDIX 1

## KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

### GUIDELINES FOR THE NOMINATION OR APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL AUTHORITY GOVERNORS

The following guidelines are based upon the legislation outlined at the end of this document and are reviewed on a regular basis by Kent County Council. Kent County Council has delegated the authority to appoint or remove LEA governors to school governing bodies, Pupil Referral Units and Academies to a sub-committee of its Selection and Member Services Committee - the Governor Appointments Panel (GAP) - as set out in Appendix 2 Part 2 of the Constitution. This guidance applies to only this category of governorship.

#### **General principles and expectations**

Local Authority governors should be able to make a full and effective contribution as a school governor and meet any skill set identified by the appointing school.

Candidates for appointment will be considered from (amongst others) political groups, Kent Governor Services, School Governors One Stop Shop and the school where there is a vacancy.

All candidates for nomination must conform in full with the qualifications and disqualifications specified in The School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2003 (appended).

Kent County Council has laid down the following guidelines for the appointment of local authority governors. GAP will also take account of any relevant comments received from the Head Teacher, governing body or local authority officers before recommending a candidate for nomination.

#### **Potential Conflicts of Interest**

Kent County Council aims to ensure that no potential conflicts of interest will arise between the personal interests of the local authority governor and the local authority. Accordingly, a candidate is unlikely to be successfully nominated for appointments as a local authority governor to a school if s/he:

1. is a member of staff in a Kent funded school (however, a candidate who volunteers at the school may be nominated if GAP deems that their relationship to the School is sufficiently remote to make a potential conflict of interest unlikely to arise)
2. is a parent of a child attending the school
3. is related to a member of staff or a member of the school's governing body
4. has worked at the school in the past
5. has worked at a school in the same area in the last 2 years
6. has made a complaint of a vexatious nature to either the school or the local authority

#### **Priority Order**

Where more than one person wishes to be the local authority governor for a vacancy at a school, the following priority will be given:

1. an existing local authority governor with an attendance record at governing body meetings of at least 2/3
2. the local County Councillor
3. a nomination supported by a political group
4. any other suitable nomination

### **Reappointment**

An effective governing body needs an element of continuity. Therefore local authority governors are normally appointed for a four year term of office. This accords with the School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2003, which allow individual governing bodies to specify a term of office between 1 and 4 years for any category of governor. A person can be re-appointed for a further 1-4 years provided s/he:

1. has attended at least 2/3 of the governing body meetings or explains their absence and agrees to improve attendance and/or
2. has attended at least 1 session of governor training during each year of their previous term.

Nominees who are parents of children at the school at the time of their potential re-appointment will be considered by GAP. The time that the child is to remain in the school will be a factor in its decision.

### **The Governor Appointments Panel's Discretion**

GAP has the discretion to agree to the nomination or re-appointment of any candidate. In considering whether to exercise its discretion, it will take account of any relevant comments received from the Head Teacher, governing body or local authority officers before recommending a nominee for appointment. Its decision will be taken with full regard to all aspects of equal opportunities legislation and will also take into account any other factor that the candidate wishes to be taken into consideration.

*Note: A register of exceptions is maintained of any person appointed against these guidelines.*

These Guidelines were approved by Selection and Member Services Committee on 6 March 2014. They take into account changes arising from the Education Act 2002: specifically, the new School Governance (procedures) (England) Regulations 2003, the Education and Inspections Act 2006, and The School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations 2012.