

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET

9 MARCH 2021

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR - EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT

APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL AUTHORITY GOVERNORS

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval from Cabinet for the appointment of local authority governors to the school governing bodies listed at paragraphs 4.1 and 4.2.

2. Connection to corporate well-being objectives/other corporate priorities

- 2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate well-being objective under the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**:

Supporting a successful sustainable economy – taking steps to make the county borough a great place to do business, for people to live, work, study and visit, and to ensure that our schools are focused on raising the skills, qualifications and ambitions for all people in the county borough.

3. Background

- 3.1 In accordance with the Council's '*Guidance on the appointment of local education authority governors*' approved by Cabinet on 14 October 2008, officers have considered applications received for current and forthcoming vacancies for local authority governor positions on school governing bodies (see paragraphs 4.1, 4.2 and Appendix A).

4. Current situation/proposal

- 4.1 For the eight schools in the table below, all eight applicants met the approved criteria for appointment as local authority governors and there was no competition for any of the vacancies. Therefore, the recommended appointments are:

Name	School
Mr William Anthony Esmond	Litchard Primary School
Mr Stephen Sloan	Llangewydd Junior School
Miss Amy Jones	Mynydd Cynffig Primary School
Mr Steven Clarke	Pencoed Comprehensive School
Mr William Anthony Esmond	Penybont Primary School
Mrs Sarah Louise Hunt	St Mary's Catholic Primary School
Mrs Karen Evans	Tondu Primary School
Mr Corey Gwilym Edwards	Ysgol Y Ferch O'r Sgêr

- 4.2 There was competition for one vacancy at one school and the applicants are detailed in the table below:

Name of applicants	School
Mr Graham Clifford	Bryntirion Comprehensive School
Mr Stephen Sloan	

The officer panel scrutinised the applications and noted that Mr Stephen Sloan has brief previous experience as a governor and is not currently serving on a governing body, whereas Mr Graham Clifford has several years experience as a governor and is currently serving on a governing body. The recommended appointment is therefore Mr Graham Clifford, reflecting the Council's following selection criteria:

- currently holding office as a school governor;
- attendance record at governing body meetings in the previous two years;
- attendance record at governor training events; and
- the relevance of the phase of education.

- 4.3 Subject to the above appointments being approved, there are still 25 vacancies that need to be filled in 18 schools (see Appendix A).

5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

- 5.1 There is no effect upon the policy framework or procedure rules.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

- 6.1 An assessment of the appointment of local authority governors identifies that there are no equality issues related to this report.

7. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 implications

- 7.1 A Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 assessment has been completed. A summary of the implications from the assessment relating to the five ways of working is as follows:

Long term

While it is desirable for local authority governors to have previous or relevant experience of the role, in the short term, the local authority may support any person for such an appointment who is interested in supporting schools, is not disqualified from being a school governor and is willing and able to dedicate the necessary time to the role.

Prevention

The local authority assesses the suitability of applicants for the local authority governor vacancy/vacancies applied for. The local authority, in conjunction with the Central South Consortium, supports governors with a comprehensive programme of both mandatory and voluntary training and access to resources, to enable them to develop and maintain their knowledge and skills, and be successful in fulfilling the role.

Integration

School governing bodies have a strategic role in running schools and ensuring that all pupils are supported to learn and achieve so that they can access opportunities for further learning and employment, know how to maintain their wellbeing, can play active roles in their communities and can contribute positively to society as a whole.

Collaboration

School governing bodies have a strategic role in ensuring that schools safeguard the health and well-being of pupils and staff. The local authority, in conjunction with the Central South Consortium, provides training to governors to enable them to develop and maintain their relevant knowledge, skills and effectiveness in this respect.

Involvement

The local authority treats all applications for local authority governor vacancies fairly, to ensure equality of opportunity. School governing bodies have a strategic role in ensuring that schools safeguard the health and well-being of pupils and staff. The local authority, in conjunction with the Central South Consortium, provides training to governors to enable them to develop and maintain their relevant knowledge, skills and effectiveness in this respect.

8. Financial implications

8.1 There are no financial implications regarding this report.

9. Recommendation

9.1 Cabinet is recommended to approve the appointments identified at paragraphs 4.1 and 4.2.

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Background documents: None

Appendix A

**Local authority governor vacancies: current and forthcoming
 (up to the end of May 2021)**

Name of school	Number of current and forthcoming vacancies
Abercerdin Primary School	2
Brynmenyn Primary School	1 (ending March 2021)
Cefn Cribwr Primary School	1
Croesty Primary School	1
Ffaldau Primary School	1
Llangewydd Junior School	1
Llangynwyd Primary School	2
Nantymoel Primary School	3 (1 ending March 2021)
Newton Primary School	1 (ending March 2021)
Nottage Primary School	2 (ending March 2021)
Ogmore Vale Primary School	1
Oldcastle Primary School	1
Pencoed Primary School	1 (ending May 2021)
St Robert's Roman Catholic Primary School	2
Tondu Primary School	1
Tynyrheol Primary School	1
Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Calon Y Cymoedd	2 (1 ending February 2021)
Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen	1
TOTAL VACANCIES	25