

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET

18 JANUARY 2022

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 objectives 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 focussed on raising the skills, qualifications and ambitions for all people in the county borough.
 - **Helping people and communities to be more healthy and resilient** - taking steps to reduce or prevent people from becoming vulnerable or dependent on the Council and its services. Supporting individuals and communities to build resilience, and enable them to develop solutions to have active, healthy and independent lives.
 - **Smarter use of resources** – ensure that all resources (financial, physical, ecological, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the creation of resources throughout the community that can help to deliver the Council's well-being objectives.

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 vacancies for local authority governor positions on school governing bodies, up to the end of December 2021 (see paragraphs 4.1 and 4.2, and Appendix A).

4. Current situation/proposal

- 4.1 For the 20 local authority governor vacancies at the 16 schools in the table below, all applicants met the approved criteria for appointment as a local authority governor and there was no competition for the vacancies. Therefore, the recommended appointments are as follows:

Name of applicant	School
Mrs Mari Johns	Bryncethin Primary School
Mrs Sheila Bloomfield	Brynmenyn Primary School
Cllr David Lewis	Brynmenyn Primary School
Cllr Dr Charles Smith	Cefn Glas Infants School
Mr David Bassett	Héronsbridge School
Mr Ian Craven	Llangynwyd Primary School
Mr Christopher Major MBE	Maes yr Haul Primary School
Cllr Paul Davies	Nanttyffyllon Primary School
Mr Nigel Davies	Nantymoel Primary School
Ms Lesley Clarke	Newton Primary School
Cllr Lyn Walters	Oldcastle Primary School
Mr Matthew Jones	Oldcastle Primary School
Mr Martin Smidman	Oldcastle Primary School
Mr Andrew Hardy	Plasnewydd Primary School
Miss Hannah Lewis	Tremains Primary School
Mr Andrew Morgan	Tremains Primary School
Mr Neville Williams	Tynyrheol Primary School
Mr Peter Vincent	Ysgol Bryn Castell
Mrs Lucy James	Ysgol y Ferch o'r Sgêr
Cllr Jon-Paul Blundell	Bryntirion Comprehensive School

- 4.2 For the local authority governor vacancy at the one school below, the applicant met the approved criteria for appointment as a local authority governor and there was no competition for the vacancy.

Name of applicant	School
Mr Symon Kendall	Cefn Cribwr Primary School

- 4.3 As Mr Kendall is currently a parent governor at Cefn Cribwr Primary School and is, therefore, unable to hold two positions on the same governing body, the recommendation to appoint Mr Kendall as local authority governor is conditional upon the applicant resigning from the existing parent governorship at the school and with the appointment as local authority governor not taking effect until the resignation is formally received and acknowledged by the chair of the school's governing body and the local authority.

5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

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

6. Equality Act 2010 implications

- 6.1 An initial Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) screening has identified that there would be no negative impact on those with one or more of the protected characteristics, on socio-economic disadvantage or the use of the Welsh language. It is, therefore, not necessary to carry out a full EIA on this policy or proposal.

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 detailed in paragraphs 4.1 and 4.2.

Mr Lindsay Harvey

CORPORATE DIRECTOR – EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT

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Background documents

None

Appendix A

Local authority governor vacancies (up to the end of December 2021)

Name of school	Number of vacancies
Abercerdin Primary School	2
Bryncethin Primary School	1
Brynmenyn Primary School	2
Cefn Cribwr Primary School	1
Cefn Glas Infants School	1
Coety Primary School	1
Croesty Primary School	1
Cwmfelin Primary School	1
Garth Primary School	1
Héronsbridge School	1
Llangewydd Junior School	1
Llangynwyd Primary School	1
Maes yr Haul Primary School	1
Nantffyllon Primary School	2
Nantymoel Primary School	2
Newton Primary School	2
Nottage Primary School	3
Oldcastle Primary School	3
Penybont Primary School	1
Plasnewydd Primary School	1
St Robert's Roman Catholic Primary School	2
Tondu Primary School	1
Tremains Primary School	2
Tynyrheol Primary School	2
Ysgol Bryn Castell	1
Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr	1
Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Calon y Cymoedd	2
Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cynwyd Sant	2
Ysgol y Ferch o'r Sgêr	1
Brynteg School	1
Bryntirion Comprehensive School	1
Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen	1
Porthcawl Comprehensive School	1
TOTAL VACANCIES	47