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| Meeting of: | CABINET |
| Date of Meeting: | 12 MARCH 2024 |
| Report Title: | APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL AUTHORITY GOVERNORS |
| Report Owner / Corporate Director: | CORPORATE DIRECTOR – EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT |
| Responsible Officer: | EMMA GILES SENIOR PUPIL SERVICES OFFICER |
| Policy Framework and Procedure Rules: | There is no effect upon the policy framework or procedure rules. |
| Executive Summary: | <p>All governing bodies of maintained schools, including maintained nursery schools, in Wales must be constituted in accordance with The Government of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005.</p> <p>All school governing bodies have four compulsory groups of governors. One of these groups is local authority governors. Local authority governors are appointed by the local authority.</p> <p>This report details recommendations for appointments to current local authority governor vacancies.</p> |

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 paragraph 3.1.

2. Background

- 2.1 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 vacancies for local authority governor positions on school governing bodies (see paragraph 3.1 and Appendix A).

3. Current situation/proposal

- 3.1 For the two current local authority governor vacancies at the two schools in the table below, the 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 |
|--------------------------|---------------|
|--------------------------|---------------|

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|------------------|------------------------|
| Mrs Janet Jones | Newton Primary School |
| Ms Emma Williams | Pencoed Primary School |

4. Equality implications (including Socio-economic Duty and Welsh Language)

- 4.1. 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.

5. Well-being of Future Generations implications and connection to Corporate Well-being Objectives

- 5.1 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 well-being, 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.

5.2 A summary of the implications from the assessment relating to the Council's new seven well-being objectives, is as follows:

1 A County Borough where we protect our most vulnerable

School governing bodies and, therefore, those appointed to serve as governors on governing bodies, have important responsibilities towards vulnerable children. 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.

2 A County Borough with fair work, skilled, high-quality jobs and thriving towns

Access to good education and ensuring children have equal opportunities to realise their potential are critical to helping young people acquire the knowledge and skills they need for work. School governing bodies and, therefore, those appointed to serve as governors on governing bodies, have a strategic role in the running of a school, deciding what the school should achieve, and setting the strategic framework for getting there.

3 A County Borough with thriving valleys communities

Access to good education, raising standards of achievement and ensuring children have equal opportunities to realise their potential, wherever they may reside, are critical to helping young people acquire the knowledge and skills they need for work. School governing bodies and, therefore, those appointed to serve as governors on governing bodies, have a strategic role in the running of a school, deciding what the school should achieve, and setting the strategic framework for getting there.

4 A County Borough where we help people meet their potential

As school governing bodies have a strategic role in the running of a school, this includes ensuring that children and young people have access to good education and equal opportunities to realise their potential, and that our schools are safe, supportive environments providing high quality teaching.

5 A County Borough that is responding to the climate and nature emergency

School governing bodies and, therefore, those appointed to serve as governors, have a shared responsibility for ensuring that teaching and learning encompasses sustainability and global citizenship.

6 A County Borough where people feel valued, heard and part of their community

School governing bodies and, therefore, those appointed to serve as governors, have a role in ensuring that there is engagement with pupils and the community served by the school, listening to views and taking appropriate actions. School governing bodies have a responsibility to support supporting diversity and inclusion, and addressing discrimination.

7 A County Borough where we support people to live healthy and happy lives

School governing bodies and, therefore, those appointed to serve as governors on governing bodies, have a shared responsibility for ensuring that teaching and learning encompasses healthy eating and physical activity, personal and social development, self-worth and well-being.

6. Climate Change implications

6.1 School governing bodies and, therefore, those appointed to serve as governors on governing bodies, have a shared responsibility for ensuring that teaching and learning encompasses sustainable development and global citizenship. Governing bodies also have a strategic role in considering the impact of net zero carbon and how to deliver this important national initiative.

7. Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications

7.1 School governing bodies and, therefore, those appointed to serve as governors on governing bodies, have important responsibilities towards vulnerable children. 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 safeguarding and promoting the welfare of vulnerable children and young people.

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 at paragraph 3.1.

Background documents

None

Appendix A

The following table represents current and future local authority governor vacancies (up to the end of February 2024) subject to the approval of the recommended appointments in paragraph 3.1.

| Name of school | Number of current and future vacancies | Latest date for submission |
|-----------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
|-----------------------|---|-----------------------------------|

| | | of an application |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| Betws/Blaengarw Primary Federation | 2 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Brackla Primary School | 2 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Brynmenyn Primary School | 1 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Bryntirion Infant School | 1 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Caerau Primary School | 2 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Corneli Primary School | 2 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Croesty Primary School | 1 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Cwmfelin Primary School | 1 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Ffaldau Primary School | 2 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Garth Primary School | 1 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Litchard Primary School | 1 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Maes yr Haul Primary School | 1 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Mynydd Cynffig Primary School | 1 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Nantffyllon Primary School | 2 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Nottage Primary School | 3 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Penybont Primary School | 1 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Pîl Primary School | 1 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Plasnewydd Primary School | 1 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Trelales Primary School | 1 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Tremains Primary School | 1 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Tynyrheol Primary School | 2 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Ysgol Bryn Castell | 1 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Calon y Cymoedd | 1 (current) | 16 February 2024 |

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|---|-------------|------------------|
| Archbishop McGrath Catholic High School | 1 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Brynteg School | 1 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Cynffig Comprehensive School | 1 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen | 1 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Porthcawl Comprehensive School | 1 (current) | 16 February 2024 |
| Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd | 1 (current) | 16 February 2024 |