

 Brent	<p style="text-align: center;">Schools Forum 14 January 2015</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Report from the Strategic Director of Children and Young People</p>
<p>For Consultation</p>	
<p>Schools Forum Membership</p>	

1. Background

- 1.1. In February 2014 a paper was brought to the Schools Forum which provided an updated on Schools Forum regulations and sought to update the membership requirements. At that time it was also agreed that membership would be reviewed annually before the start of the financial year, or sooner where there is a big change in the school population distribution during the year.
- 1.2. The Schools Forum (England) Regulations 2012 requires that schools and academies should have a broadly proportionate representation according to pupil numbers in each category. Advice on Schools Forum Regulations set out in Appendix B, states that there is some concern that Schools Forums are not reacting quick enough to these changes, and that Local Authorities are required to ensure that their Schools Forum remains compliant.
- 1.3. The Schools Forum (England) Regulations 2012 continues to provide the framework for appointment of members with a degree of discretion for local need.

2. Membership

- 2.1. The following requirements must be maintained:
 - The school and academy members combined should comprise at least two thirds of the Forum's membership. (School members are defined as maintained primary, secondary, special, nursery and PRUs).
 - Membership should include elected school members, elected academy members and appointed non-school members.
 - Brent has the discretion to further divide these groups between Head Teachers, Governors, Head Teachers **and** Governors, and Representatives from particular school categories.

2.2. The Brent Schools Forum membership is currently comprised as follows:

REPRESENTATIVE TYPE		Head Teacher	Governor	Other	Total	%
Schools (Maintained)	Primary	5	5		10	85%
	Secondary	1	1		2	
	Nursery	1	1		2	
	Special		1		1	
	PRU		1		1	
Academy	Primary & Secondary	3	3		6	15%
	Special		1		1	
Early Years PVI				2	2	15%
14-19 Partnership				1	1	
Trade Union				1	1	
Total		13	10	4	27	

2.3. This distribution was last reviewed in February 2014 and was based on the October 2013 pupil population distribution with an adjustment for the conversion of one special school to academy status.

2.4. The primary and secondary (maintained and academy) total has been previously set to eighteen, with the distribution within being reviewed in line with changes resulting from academy conversions.

2.5. The table below shows the Brent pupil population as recorded on the October 2014 census and takes account of one known primary school conversion (St Andrew and St Francis) in March 2015. Only NOR for years Reception to Year 11 is used for this purpose.

SCHOOL TYPE		October 2014 Pupil Nos	Distribution %	Representation		Variance
				Expected	Current	
Maintained	Primary	24,459	60.00%	11	10	1
	Secondary	2,960	7.26%	1	2	-1
Academy	Primary	3,477	8.53%	2	0	2
	Secondary	9,871	24.21%	4	6	-2
		40,767	100.00%	18	18	0

2.6. The table in 2.5 assumes that the primary and secondary (maintained and academy) total remains as eighteen. However the representation between sectors is no longer fully representative.

- Due to growth in the primary pupil population, there is currently an under representation of primary members in both the maintained and academy sectors. Conversely, secondary members are over-represented.
- As all academies are now recoupment academies, there is no longer the need for academy representation to be split between recoupment and

non-recoupment – previously this included 1 non-recoupment academy representative.

- Academy representation includes Free Schools.

2.7. Although more academy conversions are likely in the coming year, there are no known/confirmed conversions. There are also a number of free schools due to open in the borough in September 2015 and beyond. Changes as a result of academy conversions and the opening of free schools will be identified annually and adjusted accordingly then.

3. Sub-Groups

3.1. A review of the three Schools Forum sub-groups took place last year, and it is believed that the sub-groups continue to be an effective method of reviewing, monitoring and agreeing changes on complex matters which would not be effective in a full Schools Forum meeting. There are therefore no proposed changes to these.

4. Voting Rights

4.1. A reminder of the voting rights of each type of member is attached as Appendix B.

5. Recommendations & Consultation Points

5.1. The Schools Forum is requested to approve the following:

a. Membership:

- Maintain the current membership numbers;
- Change the membership distribution as follows:
 - Maintained Primary – increase membership by 1;
 - Maintained Secondary – reduce membership by 1;
 - Academy Primary – increase membership by 2;
 - Academy Secondary – reduce membership by 2.

b. Sub-Groups:

- The continuation of all sub-groups.

5.2. The Schools Forum is requested to note the voting rights of members.

Appendices

- A. Brent Schools Forum Membership List
- B. Voting Rights of each member of the Brent Schools Forum

Background Papers

1. Advice on the Schools Forum Regulations

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/283814/Schools_Forum_Regulations_2012.pdf

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