

Assurance Group
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School Governing Bodies (Maintained and Federated Schools) London Borough Barnet Via email	Contact: Tel: E-mail: Date:	Sarah Koniarski, Governance Officer Clerk to the General Functions Committee 020 8359 7574 sarah.koniarski@barnet.gov.uk DRAFT
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FAO: School Governing Body Chairperson

Dear Sir or Madam

Appointment of Local Authority Representatives on School Governing Bodies

I write on behalf of the General Functions Committee which is responsible for nominating local authority representatives to vacancies on school governing bodies. We understand that school governing bodies will now have completed a review of their constitutional and governance arrangements in accordance with the 2012 Regulations.¹

Following the publication of statutory guidance² by the Department for Education, we are reviewing the process used by the Council to manage the nomination of local authority representatives to ensure that the Committee has regard to the skills and experience of a candidate, together with the skills gap identified (if any) at the particular school in which a vacancy has arisen.

The Committee is conscious of the impact that decisions about the membership of a governing body will have on that governing body's ability to provide effective governance and contribute to the success of the school. The governing body is required to appoint local authority governors arising from our nominations only. Consequently, when nominating to vacancies the Committee will:

- make use of all available channels to identify suitable governors, including (but not limited to) the services of [SGOSS](#) and [Inspiring the Future](#);
- have regard to the skills gap identified by the school governing body, together with the general skills expectation of all governors; and
- make every effort to understand the governing body's requirements.

We believe it is important to inspire participation from the local community and take account of the broad range of skills and experience a good candidate will have to offer. We encourage governing bodies to express a preference for desirable skills but we urge governing bodies to give particular consideration to a candidate's willingness and ability to learn and develop as a governor.

We look forward to continuing our work with school governing bodies for the benefit of the schools and wider community which they serve.

Yours faithfully

(Insert signature)

Andrew Charlwood
Head of Governance (Assurance Group)

¹ [School Governance \(Constitution\) \(England\) Regulations 2012 \(as amended\)](#)
[School Governance \(Federations\) \(England\) Regulations 2012 \(as amended\)](#)

² [The Constitution of Governing Bodies of Maintained Schools](#)