

**AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET**

**Name of Committee**

**Regulatory Committee**

**Date of Committee**

**7<sup>th</sup> July 2005**

**Report Title**

**Membership of the School  
Organisation Committee**

**Summary**

The report outlines the LEA's review of the Schools Group and its proposals for the changes required to ensure that this meets the requirements of legislation.

**For further information  
please contact:**

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**Would the recommended  
decision be contrary to the  
Budget and Policy  
Framework? [please identify  
relevant plan/budget provision]**

No

**Background papers**

Regulations and internal correspondence relating to the proposed changes.

**CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-**

Details to be specified

- Other Committees  .....
- Local Member(s)  Not applicable.....
- Other Elected Members  .....
- Cabinet Member  Cllr John Burton
- Chief Executive  .....
- Legal  Ian Marriott
- Finance  .....
- Other Chief Officers  .....

- District Councils  .....
- Health Authority  .....
- Police  .....
- Other Bodies/Individuals  .....

**FINAL DECISION**                      **YES**

**SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:**

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee  .....
- To Council  .....
- To Cabinet  .....
- To an O & S Committee  .....
- To an Area Committee  .....
- Further Consultation  .....

## Regulatory Committee – 7<sup>th</sup> July 2005

### Membership of the School Organisation Committee

#### Report of the County Education Officer

##### **Recommendation:**

That

1. the membership of Tracey Wright and Winston Sutton of the Schools Group be terminated and that they be thanked for their valued contribution to the SOC;
2. the Committee appoint two new members of the Schools Group, being one governor of a special school and one governor of a nursery school;
3. the Committee confirm the appointment of the individuals listed in section 3 of this report;
4. the County Education Officer and County Solicitor & Assistant Chief Executive be authorised to confirm appointments to any casual vacancies on the SOC arising before the members' terms of office expire in June 2008.

#### **1. Background**

- 1.1 The School Organisation Committee ('SOC') is a statutory body, which brings together the key partners in the provision of education in Warwickshire to make decisions about proposals for establishing, closing or making changes to schools. It is established by, but legally separate from, the County Council as Local Education Authority. The Committee does not itself bring forward proposals for change, but simply makes decisions about proposals presented to it by the County Council, church authorities, school governing bodies and promoters of new schools.
- 1.2 The Warwickshire SOC is organised in five Groups representing the LEA, the Church of England, the Roman Catholic Church, the Learning & Skills Council and Schools. Members serve for a period of three years.
- 1.3 The LEA has to review the membership of the Schools Group annually to ensure that it meets legal requirements and is representative of the proportion of pupils in schools of different categories. If necessary, it may appoint new members and terminate the membership of any member of the Schools Group

by giving one month's notice in writing. This year, new Regulations have led to the need to make changes to the Schools Group. The opportunity has also been taken to invite the other bodies to review and update their nominations so that this Committee can deal with all the appointments at the same time.

## 2. The Schools Group

- 2.1 The Schools Group has 7 members – the maximum allowed. It has to include at least one governor of each of the following - a primary school; a secondary school; a special school; a maintained nursery school; a community school; a foundation school – nominated by the Warwickshire Governors' Association. The Schools Group currently lacks a governor of a maintained nursery school and a governor of a special school.
- 2.2 Discussions have been held with the Schools Group, and no member wishes to stand down. As the Regulations provide for church voluntary schools to be represented on the SOC by the appropriate Diocesan Body rather than within the Schools Group, it is suggested that the governors of the two voluntary aided schools (Winston Sutton and Tracey Wright) should be removed from the SOC to make way for special and nursery school governors. This is no reflection on them as individuals – they have both made valuable contributions to the SOC.
- 2.3 The LEA has invited volunteers from special and nursery school governing bodies. A number have come forward and the nominations will be decided upon by the Warwickshire Governors' Association on 29th June and reported verbally to the Committee.
- 2.4 The current position is as follows -

Member	School type	School category
John Atkinson	Secondary	Foundation
Dave Butcher	Secondary Primary	Community Voluntary controlled (CofE)
Simon Pickard	Primary	Community
Claire Sangster	Secondary	Community
Chris Smart	Secondary Primary	Community Community
Winston Sutton	Primary	Voluntary aided (RC)
Tracey Wright	Secondary	Voluntary aided (RC)

## 3. The other Groups

The **LEA Group** members have already been appointed. As far as the other Groups are concerned, the nominations are as follows -

**Church of England Group** (7 members – 5 from Coventry and 2 from Birmingham Dioceses)

Linda Wainscot  
Roger Frost  
David Rutherford  
Mary Edwards  
Betty Richmond

**Roman Catholic Group** (3 members from Birmingham Archdiocese)

Margaret Buck  
Michael Simpson  
Tracey Wright (if displaced from Schools Group)

**Learning and Skills Council** (one member)

Yvonne Rose

ERIC WOOD  
County Education Officer

22 Northgate Street  
Warwick

20<sup>th</sup> June 2005