

<b>Committee(s)</b>	<b>Dated:</b>
Education Board	12 May 2016
<b>Subject:</b> Proposed model governance structure for local governing bodies of City of London Academies Trust	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Director of Community and Children's Services	<b>For Decision</b>

### Summary

City of London Academies Trust (the Trust) has developed a proposed model membership for the local governing bodies of all new schools which join the Trust. The proposed model for the composition of Local Governing Bodies meets the statutory requirements of a governing body in terms of minimum numbers and membership, allows sufficient flexibility to meet local needs, and reflects the relationship between the Trust and sponsor as set out in the sponsorship agreement.

### Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to endorse the proposed model membership for LGBs of new schools which join the Trust.

### Main Report

#### Background

1. City of London Academies Trust has developed a proposed model membership for the local governing bodies of all new schools which join the Trust. This model has been developed to ensure that minimum requirements are met and that all relevant interests are represented. While LGBs may request to make small changes to this model, in order to reflect their local circumstances, such requests would be considered on their merits by the Trust Board.

#### Current Position

2. The proposed model will be adopted by City of London Primary Academy Islington.

#### Proposal

3. The proposed model membership for LGBs of the Trust is:
  - up to five sponsor governors (of which two can be from a partner organisation);

- Up to two parent governors;
  - the Headteacher/Principal
  - one staff governor;
  - one local authority governor; and
  - up to two co-opted governors.
4. As set out in the sponsorship agreement the establishment, terms of reference, constitution and membership of any such Local Governing Body or committee shall be notified to the Sponsor who shall be invited to nominate suitable candidates to be appointed as members of such Local Governing Bodies. The Chairman of every Local Governing Body will be nominated by the LGB and approved by the Trust Board. The Chairman of every Local Governing Body must be approved by the Sponsor.
5. It is recommended that Members endorse the proposed model membership for LGBs of new schools which join the Trust.

### **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

6. The City Corporation has submitted applications to sponsor four new schools therefore, if these application are successful, the City Corporation will need to identify up to five sponsor governors for each of the following Boards of governors:
- September 2016 – Newham Collegiate Sixth Form Centre.
  - September 2017 – Mount Carmel.
  - September 2017 – City of London Academy Shoreditch Park.
  - September 2019 – City of London Academy Downs Park.
7. A summary of the City of London Corporation's current commitment to the governing bodies of the City Schools any beyond is included as an appendix.

### **Conclusion**

8. The proposed model for the composition of LGBs meets the statutory requirements of a governing body in terms of minimum numbers and membership, allows sufficient flexibility to meet local needs, and reflects the relationship between the Trust and the Sponsor, as set out in the sponsorship agreement.

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## **Appendix**

### **Summary of City of London Corporation School Governors**

- 77 governor roles are carried out by Members of the Court of Common Council across the City Family of Schools
- 45 Members of the Court sit on more than one City School governing body
- 11 Members of the Court sit on governing bodies of non-City Schools
- 23 governor roles in City Schools are held by external members, appointed by the City
- 21 governor roles make up the governing body of the City of London School - 1 Alderman, 10 Common Councilmen, 8 co-opted external governors, and 2 co-opted Chairmen of fellow City independent schools
- 22 governor roles make up the governing body of the City of London School for Girls - 2 Aldermen, 12 Common Councilmen, 6 co-opted external governors, and 2 co-opted Chairmen of fellow City independent schools
- 22 governor roles make up the governing body of the City of London Freeman's School - 2 Aldermen, 12 Common Councilmen, 6 co-opted external governors, and 2 co-opted Chairmen of fellow City independent schools
- c.50% of City Corporation sponsor governors at (joint sponsored) City Academy Hackney and City of London Academy Islington are external governors with close links to the City and hold skills relevant to the needs of the governing body
- Of last 3 advertisements to the Court of Common Council for City academy governor vacancies, only 1 candidate came forward for each vacancy

### **Key Points**

- Pool of Court of Common Council members is heavily committed to existing City School governing bodies
- On evidence of past advertisement campaigns, there is little evidence remaining pool will demonstrate appetite, skills to meet demand of new governing bodies
- City has an established policy of co-opting external members with relevant skills, experience and expertise
- Members of City academy local governing bodies will be directly accountable to the new City of London Academies Trust