

Committee:	Date:
Nominations Committee of the Board of Governors of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama (For Information)	2 May 2014
Board of Governors of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama (For Decision)	12 May 2014
Subject: Skills and Effectiveness Review 2014	Public
Report of: Town Clerk	For Decision

Summary

The Skills Working Party has recently undertaken a skills and effectiveness review. This review asked all Governors of the Board to comment on various aspects around the work of the Board and the management of meetings with regard to best practice and guidance from the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) and the Leadership Foundation. It explored Governors' understanding of the Board's role, the input into and quality of meetings, the governance and clerking support received by the Board, and Governors views on communication from the School. It went on to assess personal skills and attributes including specialist and technical areas relating to the School.

The non-attributable results of the effectiveness survey are set out at **Appendix A**. The results demonstrate that overall Governors are satisfied with the administration of the Board and that the role of the Board is understood. The results also show that Governors feel reports to the Board contain relevant information but could be more concise in nature, the length of Board meetings could be shorter and that a separate Governor's online portal could be made available to provide Governors with access to relevant material i.e. the Strategic Plan and other key documents.

The results of the skills audit set out at **Appendix B** demonstrate that the Board is strong in areas of governance, strategic management and business planning and that Governors have an interest and knowledge of the arts. There is, however, a lack of identified skills with regard to fundraising and investments.

The review also highlights that the Board is comprised of a number of Governors who have specific and relevant skills and knowledge to carry out their role, such as Governors who sit on other educational governing bodies and some with qualifications in Education, Music, Stage Management and Theatre, which all serve to strengthen the governance of the School.

The Skills Working Party evaluated the results of the review and a number of actions were agreed for recommendation to this Board. **Appendix C** sets out a summary of those actions relating to the skills gaps, training sessions and areas of particular note to improve the governance of the Board and to inform the process for

appointing future Governors.

Recommendation

Governors are asked to note the contents of this report and the Board are requested to agree the summary of actions set out at Appendix C.

Appendices

- Appendix A - Board of Governors of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama - Skills and Effectiveness Review 2014 - Results and Analysis
- Appendix B – Skills Audit Section
- Appendix C – Summary of Actions

Background Papers

Skills and Effectiveness Review 2014 – Skills Working Party 14 April 2014

Rakesh Hira

Committee and Member Services Officer

Town Clerk's Department

T: 020 7332 1408

E: rakesh.hira@cityoflondon.gov.uk