

Committee(s) Education Board	Dated: 15 October 2015
General Purposes Committee of Aldermen	20 October 2015
Subject: Governance Arrangements at Christ's Hospital	Public
Report of: Town Clerk	For Information

Summary

The purpose of this report is to advise Members of proposed changes in the governance arrangements being made by Christ's Hospital. The current governance structure is divided into two separate parts, one concerned with the running of the School and the other, the Foundation, with managing the endowment etc. It is proposed that with effect from September 2017, Christ's Hospital will operate as a single entity with a unitary board and management structure.

There may be implications for the City Corporation's involvement arising out of these changes which should become clearer as matters progress.

Recommendation(s)

- It is recommended that Members note the proposed changes to the governance of Christ's Hospital and instruct the Town Clerk to continue to liaise with the Christ's Hospital and report further on the implications for the City Corporation arising out of these changes.

Main Report

1. The City Corporation has a long association with Christ's Hospital, a School located in Sussex but originally in the City, in Newgate Street.

2. The current governance structure for Christ's Hospital is divided into two separate parts, namely, the School which delivers the education and the Foundation which provides the means for the School to do so. The School and Foundation are independent but enjoy a very close working relationship.

3. The Council of Almoners (which is the corporate Trustee of Christ's Hospital Foundation) currently consists of 13 Almoners. The Court of Aldermen has the right to appoint 4 Almoners who are currently Alderman Lord Mountevans, Alderman Alan Yarrow, Deputy Catherine McGuinness and Deputy Henry Pollard. Alderman Michael Mainelli is also an Almoner, but in his own right.

4. The School is administered by a Board of Governors. Deputy Catherine McGuinness is a member of the Board although not by virtue of an appointment by the City Corporation.

3. Although not part of the School's or the Foundation's governance arrangements, the City Corporation presents 1 child annually to the School who's selection and progress through the School is overseen by a Committee of Members together with Donation Governors. In addition, the Lord Mayor (Vice President) has the opportunity to present during his or her year of office.

4. The Clerk & Chief Executive of the Foundation approached the Town Clerk's Office during the summer to explain that the School's governance arrangements were under review. Subsequently, the School and the Foundation issued a statement which confirms that, with effect from 1 September 2017, the Foundation and the School plan to operate as a single organisation with a unitary board and management structure. The change will coincide with the arrival of a new Head Master/Mistress following the planned retirement of the current incumbent. A copy of the statement is attached at Appendix A.

5. Members are asked to note the proposed changes in the governance structures. As a result, there may be implications for the City Corporation's involvement in Christ's Hospital which are not clear at this stage, though Christ's Hospital envisages continued strong representation from the City in the future governance structure. It is, therefore, recommended that the Town Clerk should continue to liaise with the Christ's Hospital and report further on any implications for the City Corporation arising out of these changes when the position is known.

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