

LIVERPOOL GOVERNANCE FORUM

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at 10:00 on 17 September 2024
at Hope School, Hartsbourne Avenue, Liverpool L25 2RY

The meeting commenced at 10:02

MM welcomed Joe Hartley, Honorary President to the meeting and thanked him for his previous support and hard work on behalf of LGF.

1.0 STANDARD ITEMS:

1.1 Welcome and Apologies

Present: Michael Morris, David Blythe, Joe Hartley, Joyce Smith, Marlene Taylor, Michelle Hayward, Dave Owens.

Visitor: MM extended a warm welcome to Gill O'Donohoe, Governance Officer for Liverpool Archdiocese and member of the Executive for Lancashire School Governing Bodies.

Apologies: Andy Chadwick, Danielle Azanuwha, Avril O'Brien, Peter Devaney, Dave Cadwallader, Barbara Murray, Maureen McDaid, Avril O'Brien, Richard Lovegrove.

1.2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting had already been agreed upon by email and posted on the LGF website.

1.3 Matters Arising

Covered by the agenda.

2.0 LGF Matters and Events

DB reported that he had attended Elaine Rees's retirement event. It was suggested that, as Elaine remains a school governor, she should be invited to become an LGF member.

DO is to approach her informally regarding this. It was noted that she may need a period of adjustment after retirement and may wish to defer joining LGF till a later date.

2.1 Finance

DO confirmed the LGF bank balance currently stands at £7,465.42. He commented that the use of internet banking ensures a more efficient and free service for LGF.

DB said he understands there is some difficulty in identifying which primary schools had not paid their annual subscription as schools pay their subscriptions to the Primary School Headteacher Association (PSHA) who then forward a single payment to LGF. Unfortunately, many of the schools who have made a payment using BACS have not included information that allows them to be identified. DB is to approach the Treasurer of PSHA to enquire if he has made any progress in identifying who has/has not paid. It was noted the subscription has remained at £25 for several years.

DO commented that some primary schools may be in financial difficulties. It was noted that the £25 subscription fee is recouped if a governor attends the LGF Conference or the school hosts a LGF meeting.

MM noted that some MATS are arranging their own training for governors rather than accessing the training provided by SIL. LGF consider the governor training provided by SIL to be excellent.

2.2 Feedback from Events

There have been no events since the last LGF meeting.

2.3 Future Events

LGF Conference is to be held on Saturday 16 November 2024. The subject of the Conference will be Complaint Handling delivered by Chris Forrest.

DC had been asked to enquire about holding the Conference at Partnership for Learning where previous conferences had been held.

DB said he had tentatively approached Hope School as a venue for the conference as it has appropriate facilities, more centrally located, had ample parking space and is well served by public transport. It was agreed that if Hope School can facilitate the event for a comparable cost, then the conference will be held there.

DB is to share the conference details with Gill Donohoe, once confirmed, who will then share the details with the Archdiocese.

Gill Donohoe said the Archdiocese is also arranging training on Complaint Handling with Hill Dickinson Solicitors.

2.4 Website

DB confirmed the LGF website is up to date and currently, there are no issues to highlight.

2.5 X (Twitter)Account

PA is to contact AO'B regarding an update for the next LGF meeting.

LGF is to consider the future use of the X site at the next LGF meeting.

2.6 Others

MM is to ask DC for an update regarding the Governor Induction Pack. It was noted that the timescale for publication prior to the LGF Conference will be very tight. The proposed document had been previously shared and discussed with LGF members last term and copies of the completed pack will be emailed to LGF members in due course.

It was noted that an estimated cost of £1,000 is expected to be incurred for the printing of 300/400 copies of the Pack.

DB was thanked for his work on the 2023/24 Annual Review which was distributed to LGF members prior to the meeting. DB was also commended on the background administration work he does that LGF members may be unaware of.

The Annual Review was unanimously approved and will be distributed to the usual recipients prior to the LGF AGM. The Annual Review will also be included in the SIL Governance Digest which is widely distributed to governors.

MM commented that GovernorHub App is no longer supported on mobile phones. Members were asked to log on to download a new link that will allow members to continue using Governor Hub on their mobile device.

3.0 Feedback from Representatives

3.1 Liverpool Schools Forum

Next meeting is to be held on 25/09/2024 at the St Margaret Clitheroe Centre, Croxteth Drive, Liverpool L17 1AA (Old LACE site).

3.2 LLP Executive Board

As Elaine Rees has not yet been replaced any future meetings will need to be confirmed.

3.3 LLP All Learners

This group has been disbanded.

3.4 LLP Learners Who Need More

This group has been disbanded.

It is believed a new restructured committee will be set up to replace the two disbanded committees above. *Noted Items 3.3 and 3.4 are to be removed from future LGF agendas.*

3.5 Liverpool Safeguarding Children Partnership (LSCP)

Not Applicable

3.6 Ethical Leadership/Other

Not Applicable

4.0 Other Items:

GD informed the meeting that there is to be a Governors Forum to be hosted, on-line, by NGA for governor associations nationally on 7/10/2024 at 6:30. GD is to attend and will provide feedback to the next LGF meeting. MM stated his intention to attend the Forum if available.

Details of the Forum are to be shared with LGF members.

Actions	
Elaine Rees to be approached regarding joining LGF	DO
Treasurers of PHTA to be asked to confirm which primary schools have outstanding subscriptions	DB
Confirmation of cost of holding LGF Conference at Hope School	DB
Confirm details of LGF Conference with Gill Donohoe	DB
AO'B to be asked for an update on the X account	PA
DC to be asked for an update regarding Governor Induction Pack	MM
NGA Forum details to be shared	GD/PA

Time and Date of the Next LGF Meetings;

Tuesday 22 October 2024 at 10:00 at Corinthian Primary School, Inigo Road, L13 6SH.

Tuesday 3 December 2024 at 10:00 at Belle Vale Primary School, Besford Road, L25 2QF.

LGF Conference is to be held on Saturday 16 November 2024. Venue to be confirmed.

The meeting concluded at 10:50