



## **Local Authority Governors**

### **Assessment criteria for appointment and re-appointment**

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- The School Governance (Constitution) (England) Regulations provide that:
  - the Local Authority (LA) can:
    - Appoint LA Governors to Governing Bodies constituted under the 2007 Regulations; or
    - Nominate LA Governors to Governing Bodies constituted under the 2012 Regulations
  - A person is disqualified from appointment as an LA governor if they are eligible to be a staff governor of the school.
- The Governors' Handbook<sup>1</sup> states:
  - Governors must, at all times, act with honesty and integrity and be ready to explain their actions and decisions to staff, pupils, parents and anyone with a legitimate interest in the school.
  - Evidence suggests that those that deliver it (*the functions of the governing body*) well do so by:
    - ensuring governors have the necessary skills and commitment, including to challenge the school to bring about improvement and hold leaders to account for performance

#### **Assessment criteria**

Authority governors are appointed as representatives of the Local Authority, the following criteria has been developed to assist in the assessment process:

1. Applicants must be able to support the priorities of the Local Authority and the best interests of the school.
2. Applicants must have the skills, experience and ability to make full and effective contributions to the work of the governing body of the school.
3. Applicants should be sensitive to the pressures under which headteachers work.
4. There should be a good quality endorsement provided by the proposer.
5. The headteacher must have been given the opportunity to comment on the application and the Governors Panel given these comments to take into account when making their decision.
6. In the case of governor reappointment there must be evidence that their attendance at meetings has been satisfactory.
7. In the case of new appointments and reappointments there must be evidence that they are willing to train or have undertaken training.

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<sup>1</sup> DfE Governors Handbook May 2013 Chapter 2 Section 2.2.3 and Section 1.2

To enable the Governors' Panel to fulfil their duties in identifying suitable applicants for appointment or nomination the following documents are required:

- LA Governor application form (new and re-appointment)
  - The application form for Local Authority Governor should be completed alongside the person specification for the role as it will be used to assess whether the applicant has the skills, experience and ability to make full and effective contributions to the work of the governing body of the school.
- Referee and proposer statements
  - when considering an application, panel members are asked to look for good quality references and when appropriate an endorsement provided by a proposer.
- Supporting evidence
  - In the case of governor reappointment there must be evidence that attendance at meetings has been satisfactory and that the applicant has taken advantage of training and development opportunities
  - When a candidate is matched to a school, either prior to application or following panel approval, the headteacher will be given the opportunity to comment on the application before an appointment or nomination is made.