

The Way Forward – A Modernised Framework for School Governance Questionnaire

The Way Forward Paper sets out for consultation proposals to modernise the framework for school governance. It covers:

- the constitution of governing bodies;
- governing body responsibilities; and
- governing body procedures.

For each of the above a number of proposals are made and views invited. Please use the form below to respond to the Paper and return it to: DfES Governance Consultation, NOP Research, Caxton House, 91 Victoria Road, Chelmsford, CM1 1JW. You may also send your response by e-mail using the e-mail facility on the White Paper website at: <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/achievinguccess>

Under the Code of Practice on Open Government, any responses will be made available to the public on request, unless respondents indicate that they wish their response to remain confidential. The consultation period runs until 7 November 2001

Please indicate your overall view on the proposal that the size and constitution of a school's governing body should be based on the guiding principles set out above.

About You

Please fill in the following details to help us with the analysis of responses.

1. Are you responding on behalf of an individual or on behalf of an organisation? [tick boxes]

Individual

Organisation

2. If you are responding as an individual, are you responding primarily in your role as:

governor

parent

teacher

Other (specify)

other school staff

3. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, is it a:

Governing body

National organisation

LEA

Other (specify)

Diocesan body

4. If you are responding as an individual associated with, or on behalf of a school, what is its age range and category

Under 5

Community

Community Special

5–11

Foundation

Foundation Special

11–16

Voluntary controlled

Nursery

11–18

Voluntary Aided

Other (specify)

Thank you for taking the time and trouble to complete this form. So that we can acknowledge receipt of your response, please fill in your name and address or that of your organisation. You may withhold this information if you wish.

Name:

Organisation:

Address:

Under the Code of Practice on Open Government your response will be made available to the public on request unless you indicate here that you wish it to remain confidential.

Section 2: The Constitution of Governing Bodies

- Q1** Please indicate your overall view on the proposal that the size and constitution of a school's governing body should be based on the guiding principles set out in paragraph 4.3 of the consultation document.

Strongly support

Support

Support in part

Do not support

We would welcome your comments on the proposal or suggestions for improvement.

- Q2** Please indicate your overall view on the proposal set out in paragraphs 5.1 and 5.2 to include minor authority representation on governing bodies as part of other stakeholder groups (namely LEA and/or community), rather than separately.

Strongly support

Support

Support in part

Do not support

We would welcome your comments on the proposal or suggestions for improvement.

- Q3** Please indicate your overall view on the proposal set out in paragraph 5.4 that associate governors should be able to attend full governing body meetings, but that they should not have voting rights at those meetings.

Strongly support

Support

Support in part

Do not support

We would welcome your comments on the proposal or suggestions for improvement.

Q4 Please indicate your overall view on the proposal set out in paragraph 6.1 that all members of the governing body should be able to vote to co-opt community governors on to the governing body.

Strongly support

Support

Support in part

Do not support

We would welcome your comments on the proposal or suggestions for improvement.

Q5 Please indicate your overall view on the proposal set out in paragraphs 6.2 and 6.3 that a single governor stakeholder group should be formed to represent staff employed at the school.

Strongly support

Support

Support in part

Do not support

We would welcome your comments on the proposal or suggestions for improvement.

Q6 Please indicate your overall view on the proposal set out in paragraphs 6.2 and 6.3 that one governor place from within the staff stakeholder group should be reserved for a teachers' representative.

Strongly support

Support

Support in part

Do not support

We would welcome your comments on the proposal or suggestions for improvement.

Q7 Please indicate your overall view on the proposal set out in paragraph 6.4 that staff employed by the school may only serve as staff governors.

Strongly support

Support

Support in part

Do not support

We would welcome your comments on the proposal or suggestions for improvement.

Q8 Please indicate your overall view on the proposal set out in paragraph 7.1 that the guiding principles on the size and constitution of governing bodies set out in paragraph 4.3 of the consultation document should be extended to maintained nursery schools.

Strongly support

Support

Support in part

Do not support

We would welcome your comments on the proposal or suggestions for improvement.

Q9 Please indicate your overall view on whether we should set a maximum for the number of schools that should be allowed to federate under a single governing body (paragraph 8.3 refers).

Yes

No

Please record any comments on the issue.

Q10 If you have answered yes on issue 9, please indicate your view on the maximum number of schools that should be allowed to federate under a single governing body (paragraph 8.3 refers). Tick one box only.

Up to 5

5 to 7

8 to 10

10 +

We would welcome your comments on this issue.

Section 3: Governing Bodies Responsibilities

Q11 We would welcome your views on the proposal that the circumstances outlined in paragraph 9.8 should prompt consideration of replacing the school governing body with an interim executive board.

Strongly support

Support

Support in part

Do not support

We would welcome your comments on the proposal or suggestions for improvement.

Q12 Please indicate your overall view on the proposal set out in paragraphs 10.1 and 10.2 that we should deregulate provisions relating to governing body responsibilities for staff appointments and dismissals.

Strongly support

Support

Support in part

Do not support

We would welcome your comments on the proposal or suggestions for improvement.

Q13 Please indicate your overall view on the proposal set out in paragraph 11.1 that we should deregulate provisions relating to governing bodies other responsibilities where they are prescriptive and cannot be easily adapted to cater for changing circumstances.

Strongly support

Support

Support in part

Do not support

We would welcome your comments on the proposal or suggestions for improvement.

Q14 Please indicate your overall view on the proposal that we should legislate to provide for governing bodies to have the choice to provide a wide range of family and community facilities or services.

Strongly support

Support

Support in part

Do not support

We would welcome your comments on the proposal or suggestions for improvement.

Section 4: Governing Bodies Procedures

Q15 Please indicate your overall view on the proposal set out in paragraphs 13.1–13.5 that governing bodies should be given greater scope to regulate their own procedures within that framework of principles.

Strongly support

Support

Support in part

Do not support

We would welcome your comments on the proposal or suggestions for improvement.

Q16 Please indicate your overall view on the proposal set out in paragraphs 13.6 and 13.7 that there should be a single quorum for all governing body meetings of one third.

Strongly support

Support

Support in part

Do not support

We would welcome your comments on the proposal or suggestions for improvement.

If you have any other points you would like to make about the proposals in this consultation, or other points concerning school governing bodies, please record them below.

