

9 December 2002

Dear Colleague

CONSULTATION ON NEW GOVERNING BODY PROCEDURES

I enclose for consultation draft guidance and regulations on the proposed arrangements for the procedures of school governing bodies. The new regulations will come into force on 1 September 2003.

We consulted on proposals to give governing bodies greater scope to determine their own procedures in the September 2001 consultation paper 'The Way Forward – A Modernised Framework for School Governance'. The enclosed draft regulations and guidance set out the proposed arrangements in more detail.

New provisions relating to joint governing body meetings and committees of two or more schools, federations and new schools will be covered in separate regulations and guidance.

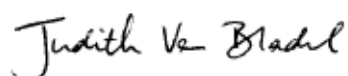
Also enclosed is a leaflet for governing bodies which gives brief information on the key issues and main changes to the current procedures. This leaflet will be made available to governing bodies and is enclosed for your information.

Our aim is to provide guidance that is clear, concise and yet sufficiently detailed to give governing body clerks and chairs, LEAs, and other partners the right amount of information on the new framework of procedures. We would welcome your comments on the proposed new procedures and the guidance. It would be helpful if you could use the enclosed response form to send us your comments. You can also e-mail your response to the following address: reg.procedure@dfes.gsi.gov.uk. Please note that the closing date of the consultation is 3 March 2003.

Copies of the draft regulations, guidance and leaflet are being sent to the organisations on the attached list and will also be available on the Department's Website: www.dfes.gov.uk/governor/consult.cfm

I look forward to receiving your response.

Yours sincerely



Judith Van Bladel
School Governance and Organisation Unit



List of Consultees

• Local Education Authorities	• National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers
• Local Government Association	• Diocesan Directors of Education (Church of England)
• Association of London Government	• Diocesan Directors of Education (Roman Catholic)
• Society of Education Officers	• Catholic Education Service
• Association of Chief Education Officers	• United Synagogue Board of Education
• Service Children's Education (UK HQ)	• Free Church Federal Council
• CTC Chairman of Governors Forum	• Church of England Board of Education
• Qualifications & Curriculum Authority	• Jewish Secondary Schools Movement
• Advisory Centre for Education (ACE)	• Methodist Church Education Office
• The National Governors Council	• Board of Deputies of British Jews
• National Association of Governors and Managers	• Muslim Educational Trust
• Information for School and College Governors	• Muslim Teachers Association
• LEA Co-ordinators of Governor Services	• Independent Schools Council
• The Campaign for Advancement of State Education	• Association of Headteachers & Principals of Orthodox Jewish Day Schools
• Association of Teachers and Lecturers	• Scottish Office (Education Department)
• National Association of Headteachers	• Northern Ireland Office (Education Department)
• National Union of Teachers	• Office for Standards in Education
• Professional Association of Teachers	• Teacher Training Agency
• Secondary Heads Association	• National Assembly for Wales
• National Confederation of Parent Teacher Associations	• National Association of Local Councils