The main Schools Forum elections which were due to take place this year in March have been postponed until 2018. This is due the uncertainty around the future role of School Forums, and school funding, as a result of the National Funding Formula proposals. It was felt that a significant change in membership of the Forum would not be helpful at this time.

The term of office of those members whose term was due to end on 31st March 2017 has therefore been extended until 31st March 2018.

However, the seats outlined in the list below had become vacant or were about to become vacant, and a nomination process took place for just those seats. Following receipt of nominations (which closed Friday 31 March at 5pm), the list below sets out where individuals have been elected unopposed, where an election is now required, and the seat which remains vacant.

1 **Primary Headteacher (Maintained) Representatives (two seats)** –
   One nomination has been received for each seat, the nominees are therefore *appointed to the Forum unopposed* with effect from the commencement of their term of office.
   - Representing Primary (Maintained) headteachers, (term of office from 8 May 2017 – 31 March 2021) – Dan Johnson, Headteacher at Kingswood Primary School.

2 **Primary School Governor (Maintained) Representative (one seat)** –
   Term of office 8 May 2017 – 31 March 2021
   Two nominations have been received:
   - Matt Bishop, St White’s Primary School,
   - Martin Doidge, Chesterton Primary School.
   An election will therefore take place.

3 **Vacant Seat**
   Secondary (Maintained) School Governor Representative (one seat) –
   Term of office 8 May 2017 – 31 March 2019 – No nominations received.

Whilst this round of nominations has now closed, do please contact the clerk (details below) if you wish to put your name forward for the vacant seat.
Where an election has been triggered, ballot papers have been sent out to reach Chairs of Governors in the week commencing 3 April 2017 and ballot papers must be returned by 5pm on Friday 28 April 2017. Results will be made available on this webpage after the election has closed.

Please note that it is the Governing Body that registers the vote (exercised by the Chair on behalf of the Governing Body as a whole), not individual governors.

Those who stand but are not elected will be added to the official substitutes list.

4 Secondary (Academy) School Governor Representative

From 22 June 2017 there will be a vacancy on Gloucestershire Schools Forum’s membership for a Secondary (Academy) School Governor member, as the current member will be stepping down. The term of office for this seat commences 22 June 2017 and ends 31 March 2019.

Nomination forms have been sent to relevant parties, to be returned to the clerk (details below) by 15th May 2017. If more than one nomination is received then there will be an election. Ballot papers will then be issued 16th May 2017, to the electors, to be returned to the clerk by 5 pm on 9 June 2017. The result will be published as soon as possible the following week.

Election Arrangements

The key elements of the election process are that:

- An independent Returning Officer will oversee the process – Simon Harper, the County Council’s Head of Democratic Services and Deputy Monitoring Officer.
- Votes will be collected by the clerk to the Forum and securely stored.
- The ballot box will be opened on the first working day after the close of the poll and votes counted. A representative of the voting group via GGA will be invited to attend the count.
- In the event of a tie between two or more candidates, the Education Funding Agency Schools Forum Operational and Good Practice Guide, published in March 2015, states the following: “In the event of a tie between two or more candidates, then the local authority must appoint the schools member instead. The local authority may decide to appoint someone else rather than one of the candidates and might wish to take into account the experience or expertise of the individuals, and balance between the different types of school represented on the schools forum”.
- The results of the election, showing the votes cast for each candidate, will be circulated to members of the Forum, and published on the Gloucestershire Schools Forum Webpage, within 5 working days. A link to the webpage will be included in the What’s Up Gov Bulletin and the Heads Up Bulletin.
Any queries should be made to the clerk Joanne Bolton, Democratic Services Advisor, 01452 324197 joanne.bolton@gloucestershire.gov.uk Thank you.