

Rhondda Cynon Taf Governors Association (RCTGA)

Constitution – May 2017

1. Title:

- 1.1. The name of the association shall be “The Rhondda Cynon Taf Governors Association”.

2. Aims & Objectives

- 2.1 To be an independent forum for School Governing Bodies in Rhondda Cynon Taf;
- 2.2 To promote best practice in governance in schools within Rhondda Cynon Taf;
- 2.3 To provide regular information to Governing Bodies on the work of the Association and to encourage Governing Bodies to bring matters of common concern before the Association for discussion;
- 2.4 To support working partnerships between various bodies including the LA, teacher organisations, parents, Central South Consortium and Governors Wales;
- 2.5 To promote school to school support and Governing Body to Governing Body support;
- 2.6 To disseminate relevant information to Governing Bodies in Rhondda Cynon Taf;
- 2.7 To be a consultative forum representing Governing Bodies in RCT; and
- 2.8 To scrutinize strategies and policies relevant to schools and Governing Bodies, where appropriate.

3. Membership

- 3.1 The membership of the Association shall comprise every governor of all schools within the RCT LA. Governors shall be members of the Association for so long as they hold office. Each Governing Body will nominate an RCTGA representative.
- 3.2 The Local Authority will be invited to nominate two ex-officio members to the Association who shall be the Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning or to be delegated to another Cabinet Member in their absence and the Director of Education and Lifelong Learning.

3.3 The Central South Consortium will be invited to nominate an ex-officio member of the Association.

3.4 The Association will nominate the RCT GA member to represent the Association on the Governors Wales Board.

4. The Management Committee

4.1 The general management of the Association shall be the responsibility of a management committee, hereinafter known as “the Executive Committee”.

4.2 The Executive Committee shall comprise of no more than 15 governors, who shall be elected biennially by election, to include representatives from all sectors. Should a vacancy arise between elections, the Executive Committee may co-opt a governor(s) to hold office until the next election.

4.3 An individual’s membership of the Executive Committee shall lapse if that person is absent from two consecutive meetings without offering what in the opinion of the Executive Committee is a reasonable explanation for the absence.

4.4 The quorum of the Executive Committee shall be 50% of the membership. All members, apart from ex-officio members, will have voting rights. Every matter will be determined by a majority of votes of the members present and voting on the question. In the case of an equal vote, the Chairperson will have a casting vote.

4.5 The meetings of the Executive Committee will be open to non-voting observers at the discretion of the Chairperson.

4.6 The Executive Committee can nominate person(s) to serve on the LA working groups / committees, as they are invited to do so by the LA, or other relevant bodies.

5. Meetings

5.1 The Executive Committee shall hold at least one meeting per term, one meeting to be designated as the Annual General Meeting. All governors will be invited to attend the Annual General Meeting.

5.2 The Annual General Meeting shall meet as soon as is practicable after the commencement of a new academic year. The link governor will be invited to attend as the Governing Body representative.

- 5.3 At every meeting, the minutes of the previous meeting are to be taken as the first agenda item and, if agreed to be accurate, shall be signed as a true record by the Chairperson.
- 5.4 Minutes of the Association, together with copies of reports, shall be deposited at the LA and copies shall be sent to all Governing Bodies comprising the Association following the meeting.
- 5.5 The Executive Committee will nominate a clerk from within its membership.
- 5.6 The Director of Education and Lifelong Learning or his / her representative may attend all meetings of the Association in an advisory capacity.

6. Officers

- 6.1 At the first meeting of the Executive Committee it shall elect from its members a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Clerk and Communications & Information Officer of the Association. If the Chairperson is absent from any meeting, the Vice-Chairperson shall preside. If neither are in attendance, members who are present will elect a Chairperson for that meeting only.

7. Election For Place on the Committee

- 7.1 A nomination letter and form will be sent to every Chairperson of each Governing Body, the RCTGA link governor and the Headteacher. The form will include a closing date for receipt of nominations.
- 7.2 Every Governing Body will be entitled to nominate one of its governors to the Executive Committee.
- 7.3 If following the nomination process more nominations are received than the 15 places available a secret ballot will be held amongst Governing Bodies.
- 7.4 Every Governing Body will be entitled to submit one ballot paper.
- 7.5 If fewer nominations than posts are received, the Executive Committee may co-opt governors to hold post until the next election.
- 7.6 The Governor Support Service will administer the election.

8. Permanent Alterations to the Constitution

- 8.1 Permanent alterations to the Constitution may only be made by the Executive Committee following consultation with all Governing Bodies in RCT. Governors may seek alterations to the constitution by making a written

request to the Chairperson of the Executive Committee, to be signed by no less than 13 RCT school Governing Bodies. These governors must represent 13 different governing bodies. Governors who sit on more than one Governing Body will only count as 1 for this purpose.

- 8.2 Any alterations will be presented at the next AGM along with an explanation for such alterations.