

**EXTRACT FROM THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE WORCESTERSHIRE
SCHOOLS FORUM 27th SEPTEMBER 2007**

EARLY YEARS ISSUES

“1.3 Membership List September 2007

(c) Andy advised on the proposed changes to the Schools Forum regulations recently circulated. The key changes were: -

- Schools Forums with non-school members have to widen their membership to include representatives of the Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) early years sector and the 14-19 Partnership.
- The limit on non-school members has been increased from up to 1/5th to up to 1/3rd of members.
- The scope of the school membership has been widened to permit membership for ‘senior members of school staff’ responsible for financial issues.
- Schools Forums need to have formal arrangement for substitutes.

(d) The implications for the current WSF membership of 20 (16 school and 4 non-school) were further advised as follows: -

- The need to create 2 new non-school categories. This would mean a WSF membership of 22, which provides for school members of 16 (73%) and non-school of 6 (27%). This satisfies the non-school membership limit and the required 2:1 majority for school members.
- The WSF had already considered the option for a wider scope for school membership and agreed for this to stay as Headteachers and Governors.
- The WSF already have informal arrangements for substitutes, which now need to be formalised. It was noted these nominations had to be in the same category for each individual member.
- The Early Years and Childcare Partnership no longer exists so a change in this category is required.

RESOLVED –

To increase the current WSF membership by 2 in the non-schools category to include representation from the PVI early years sector and the 14-19 Partnership as required resulting in a total new membership of 22 (16 school and 6 non-school).

To change the existing category for Early Years and Childcare Partnership to Childcare Act Implementation Group and to seek a nomination for WSF membership.

The Clerk to make the necessary changes to the WSF constitution for all these issues as required.

9.2 Early Years

Andy advised of all the areas for development during the next multi budget period. The Forum supported the need to set up an Early Years Provider Reference Group, as a sub group of the WSF, to lead on the issues and report back.

RESOLVED – That the WSF agree to the set up of an Early Years Provider Reference Group to consider the issues and that WSF members Cherrill Illingworth, Naomi Christelow, Prue Winton and the PVI Member be nominated to sit on the group along with other representatives of the LA and PVI sector.”