

Non-Executive Report of the: General Purposes Committee 7 th May 2019	
Report of: Debbie Jones, Corporate Director (Children's Services)	Classification: [Unrestricted]
Report on Equality Breakdown of LA Governors	

Originating Officer(s)	Runa Basit
Wards affected	All wards

Executive Summary

This report sets out for Members breakdown of equality information and demographic of LA Governors currently serving in the borough. The report also includes breakdown of equality information for governors overall.

The current data held by the LA does not include all equality information for governors as some governors have opted not to provide this information to Governor Services.

The data presented below is a breakdown of the available information.

Recommendations:

The General Purposes Committee is asked to note:

1. The equality information provided,
2. That Governor Services is carrying out a piece of work to obtain equality information from all governors – where information is missing, and
3. The planned next steps to further improve diversity on Governing Boards across the borough.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 This report is for noting and no decision is required at this stage.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 To improve the efficiency for recording governor information, Governor Services is exploring alternative database and online platforms, such as GovernorHub. Further information will be available in due course.

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

3.1 There are 100 schools in the borough and each school is able to appoint 1 LA Governor. There are currently 17 LA governor vacancies.

3.2 Breakdown of Equality information for LA Governors is provided below:

Local Authority Governors: 79

Number/Percentage of Male: **37/47%**

Number/Percentage of Female: **42/53%**

Ethnicity breakdown of Governors:

Ethnicity	Number/Percentage
Unknown	23/29%
White British	37/47%
Bangladeshi	6/7.6%
Other White	2/2.5%
Irish	2/2.5%
Indian	2/2.5%
prefer Not to Say	1/1.3%
White and black Caribbean	1/1.3%
Mixed White/black	1/1.3%

Number/Percentage of Governors living outside of borough: **30/40%**

Number/Percentage of Governors living in borough: **49/62%**

Number/Percentage of governors where equality information is not available: **23/29%**

3.3 The breakdown of Equality Information for overall governors is provided below.

Total Number of Governors: 970ⁱ

Number/Percentage of Male: **447/46%**

Number/Percentage of Female: **520/54%**

NB: The total number of governors is not accurate, as there are number of academies and free schools where we do not have up-to-date information on their Governing Boards.

Ethnicity breakdown of Governors:

Ethnicity	Number/Percentage
Unknown	576/59%
White British	236/24%
Bangladeshi	69/7%
Other White	2/0.2
African	11/1.1%
Irish	11/1.1%
Indian	9/0.9%
Caribbean	7/0.7
Mixed	4/0.4%

Chinese	4/0.4%
Other black	3/0.3%
any other Group	3/0.3%
Prefer Not to Say	3/0.3%
do not wish to reveal	2/0.2%
white and black Caribbean	2/0.2%
Other Asian	1/0.1%
Greek	1/0.1%
Traveller of Irish heritage	1/0.1%
Turkish	1/0.1%

Number/Percentage of Governors living outside of borough: **264/28%**

Number/Percentage of Governors living in borough: **699/72%**

Number/Percentage of governors where equality information is not available: **576/59%**

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Local Authority Governors are drawn from all sectors of the community. There is a mechanism in place to ensure, as far as possible, that the composition of governing bodies reflects the makeup of the school and wider community.
- 4.2 It is also important to note that the guidance from DfE emphasises that Governing Boards need to focus on ensuring that governors have the key skills to support the work of the Governing Body.
- 4.3 Further work is planned to promote diversity on Boards and Governor Services is in discussion with National Governance Association (NGA), and working with Inspiring Governance to support this work.

5. OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This section of the report is used to highlight further specific statutory implications that are either not covered in the main body of the report or are required to be highlighted to ensure decision makers give them proper consideration. Examples of other implications may be:
- Best Value Implications,
 - Consultations,
 - Environmental (including air quality),
 - Risk Management,
 - Crime Reduction,
 - Safeguarding.
- 5.2 There are no further specific statutory implications arising from the report.

6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

6.1 There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

7.1 The Public sector equality duty came in to force in April 2011 (s.149 of the Equality Act 2010) and public authorities are now required, in carrying out their functions, to have due regard to the need to achieve the objectives set out under s149 of the Equality Act 2010 to:

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

7.2 To ensure transparency, and to assist in the performance of this duty, the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) Regulations 2011 require public authorities, named on , to publish:

- equality objectives, at least every four years (from 6th April 2012)
- information to demonstrate their compliance with the public sector equality duty (from 31st January 2012)

7.3 The provision of additional equality information from the remaining governors whose data is currently unknown will better enable the Council to ensure that they are meeting their equality duty.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- LA Governor Appointment

Appendices

- None

Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)

List of “Background Papers” used in the preparation of this report

List any background documents not already in the public domain including officer contact information.

- NONE

Officer contact details for documents:

Runa Basit

ⁱ This number is not accurate, as there are number of academies and free schools where we do not have up-to-date information on their Governing Boards.