



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

DISABLED PEOPLE'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE
19 MAY 2005

Report of the Director of Education

Recruitment of School Governors

RECOMMENDATION

1. To help identify and encourage disabled people to become school governors in Derby City schools.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 Derby City Education Service are responsible for recruiting LEA governors to Derby City Schools.
- 2.2 All governing bodies include a number of LEA governors, generally two or three in total. Originally political appointments, LEA governors no longer have political affiliations.
- 2.3 Within the city we currently have a total of 44 LEA governor vacancies out of a total 274 LEA governor places. Some of these are at schools, which are on the priority schools list. Schools in Special Measures can also have two additional LEA governors appointed.
- 2.4 We would encourage disabled people to become governors at any of our schools as their experiences can only further raise awareness of disability issues and integration of disabled pupils into mainstream schools. There are vacancies in our special schools which disabled people may be interested in.
- 2.6 We are keen to increase the number of LEA school governors, particularly from the black and ethnic minority communities and disabled people in the city and would welcome DPAC members' views on ways we could do this.

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Background papers: Recruitment pack
List of appendices:

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. The only costs would be in the provision of recruitment packs which we could send to prospective governors. These would be funded from the Governor Support budget.

Legal

2. Employment and access to buildings and services is covered by the provisions of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995. When the new Disability Discrimination Bill becomes law in 2006, we will have a legal duty to encourage participation by disabled people in public life.

Personnel

3. None.

Equalities Impact

- 4.1 The recruitment of more disabled people as governors will raise awareness of disability issues and promote positive attitudes towards disabled people. Disabled governors will also act as role models for disabled children.
- 4.2 We will provide recruitment literature in a range of formats so disabled people can access them.

Corporate Objectives and Priorities for Change

- 5.1 This work links to the Council's objectives of providing a diverse, stimulating and high quality learning environment and to a shared commitment to regenerating our communities.
- 5.2 The recruitment of governors contributes to a number of key priorities to support the vision for the Education Service. These include:
 - Strong and positive neighbourhoods with good local services, where people feel safe and there are strong relationships within and between communities.
 - Protecting and supporting people – through social, education, housing and health care services working together to protect vulnerable adults and children, reduce health inequalities and help people live independent lives in the way they choose.