

School Governance Questionnaire for Headteachers and Chair of

School Governance Questionnaire

Portsmouth City Council's Education, Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel is currently undertaking a review into school governance, which will feed into the council's School Governance Strategy. In order to assist with the review, the Panel have devised a questionnaire and they would be very grateful if you could complete this. They will use this information to form recommendations from the review.

How to complete the survey

Click "Next" to move through the survey and click "Back" to go back. At the end click "SUBMIT" to send us your answers.

The survey will take around 15 minutes to complete, and the survey closes on 28 March 2014. If you need any help completing this consultation, please call 023 9283 4056.

1. What services offered by the governor services team at Portsmouth City Council do you use and how would you rate these?

	Very good	Good	Poor	Very poor	N/A
a range of training courses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
support and guidance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
regular updates	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
self-evaluation toolkit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
assistance with finding a clerk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (please specify)

2. Do you feel the support from the team is needed?

- Yes
 No

additional comments

3. Do you have any alternative ideas for how support is provided?

- Yes
 No

If Yes please provide further information

School Governance Questionnaire for Headteachers and Chair of

Recruitment and Retention of Governors

4. What do you think are the issues for governors not staying in post? (1. is the most important and 5. the least)

Too much time involved

Too little support

Training not at suitable times

Training not in a form they like

Too much reading/paperwork

5. Other Issues (please specify)

6. Do you think new governors feel sufficiently equipped to become fully involved in the running of the school?

Yes

No

If No, what do you think are the reasons for this?

7. Do you think the induction process for governors could be improved?

Yes

No

If Yes, how could this be improved?

School Governance Questionnaire for Headteachers and Chair of

8. What do you think are the barriers to recruiting governors? (1. is the greatest and 4. the least)

<input type="text"/>	Do not think they have the right skills
<input type="text"/>	Too much time involved
<input type="text"/>	Difficulty in attending meetings
<input type="text"/>	Do not fully understand the role

9. Other Barriers (please specify)

10. What is your school doing to actively recruit governors? (please tick as many as apply)

- Leaflet campaign
- advertising through school website
- through governor services team at Portsmouth City Council
- Using the SGOSS Schools Service website
- Not currently recruiting for governors

Other (please specify)

11. Has your school exercised its right to re-constitute its governing body?

- Yes
- No, but are considering this
- No, considered and decided against this

School Governance Questionnaire for Headteachers and Chair of

12. How did the composition of your governing body change following re-constituting?

13. Is recruitment and retention of governors a problem with one group of governors in particular?

- Yes
 No

14. If yes, which group of governors have you found most difficult to recruit? (1. is the most difficult and 5. the least)

<input type="text"/>	Parent Governor
<input type="text"/>	Local Authority Governor
<input type="text"/>	Community Governor
<input type="text"/>	Staff Governor
<input type="text"/>	Foundation Governor

15. Other Groups (please specify)

16. Have you found an issue with recruiting governors with skills suitable to perform the role of school governor?

- Yes
 No

If Yes, what are you doing to overcome this?

School Governance Questionnaire for Headteachers and Chair of

17. What are you doing to ensure succession planning for your governing body is in place? (Please tick as many as apply)

- Ensuring that governors are active and involved in the school
- Spotting talent for potential new governors
- Supporting and developing leadership skills
- Creating opportunities to practice those skills
- Giving and receiving feedback, coaching and mentoring
- Valuing and retaining effective leaders on the governing body
- Developing the governing body as a team
- Fair and effective delegation

Other (please specify)

18. Do you have procedures in place to ensure continued professional development of governors?

- Yes
- No

19. If Yes, please describe what procedures you have in place.

School Governance Questionnaire for Headteachers and Chair of

Training

20. On the whole, are your governors accessing the available training provided by the governor services team?

- Yes
- No

21. If No, what are the reasons for not accessing training? (1. is the biggest factor and 4. the least)

<input type="text"/>	Time pressures
<input type="text"/>	Location of training
<input type="text"/>	Not able to make the sessions due to other commitments
<input type="text"/>	Style of training

22. Other Reasons (please specify)

23. If yes, how many governor services training sessions did your governing body attend in 2012/13?

- 1-3
- 4-5
- 6-7
- 8+

24. Do your governors generally complete the e-learning training available?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

25. If Yes, approximately how many hours have the governing body collectively accessed in 2012/13 (rounded to the nearest hour)

- 0-2 hours
- 3-5 hours
- 6-8 hours
- 9+ hours

School Governance Questionnaire for Headteachers and Chair of

Self Review

26. How often does your governing body undertake self-review?

- Annually
- Bi-Annually
- Monthly

Other (please specify)

27. Do you use the self-review template to undertake self-review?

- Yes
- No

If no, why not?

28. If Yes, how would you rate the self-review toolkit?

- Very Good
- Good
- Poor
- Very Poor

please include any further comments

29. How do you use the information gained from self-review?

- Using to assess training needs
- help develop as a governing body over the next year

Other (please specify)

30. How has completing self-review improved practice?

School Governance Questionnaire for Headteachers and Chair of

Clerking

31. What do you consider are the qualities of an effective clerk? (1. is the most important and 6. the least)

Organised

Familiar with the school

Good communicator

Proactive

Assertive

Understands how a governing body works

32. Other Qualities (please specify)

33. How would you rate your clerk?

- Very Good
- Good
- Poor
- Very Poor

Any additional comments

34. Did you encounter problems with recruiting a suitable clerk?

- Yes
- No

35. If Yes, what problems did you encounter?

- lack of people applying or the post
- finding a clerk with suitable skills

Other (please specify)

School Governance Questionnaire for Headteachers and Chair of

36. What is your opinion on the idea of setting up a clerking pool in the city to provide clerk support for schools who are unable to find a clerk?

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.

Please now click 'SUBMIT' to send us your answers.