

## ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Associate members are appointed by the full governing body and should be an agenda item at a full meeting. It is for the governing body to decide how they wish to appoint – show of hands secret ballot etc.

**The minutes should record their term of office and whether or not the associate member has been accorded limited voting rights (these are referred to below).**

### ASSOCIATE MEMBER APPOINTMENTS

Governing bodies can benefit from being able to draw on expertise and experience from outside their formal governor membership. The governing body can appoint associate members to serve on one or more governing body committees and attend full governing body meetings. The definition of associate member is wide and pupils, school staff and people who want to contribute specifically on issues related to their area of expertise (for instance finance) can be appointed as associate members.

Associate members are appointed as members of any committees established by the governing body. They are appointed for a period between one and four years and can be re-appointed at the end of their term of office. **Associate members are not governors and they are not recorded on the Instrument of Government.** Once appointed associates can attend full governing body meetings but will **not** have voting rights at such meetings.

The governing body can give limited voting rights to associate members at committee level at the time of appointment. Associate members cannot be given voting rights if they have not reached the age of 18 at the time of their appointment.

Associate members may not vote on any decision concerning

admissions;

pupil discipline;

election or appointment of governors;

the budget and financial commitments of the governing body.

Full details on associate membership is available in the Guide to the Law.