



ADVICE ON THE ROLE OF CHAIR OF PARTNERSHIP

The Partnership Agreement anticipates that each of the Partnerships will appoint a Chair.

The Chair's role includes:

- Ensuring that the Partnership operates in compliance with the Partnership Agreement
- Line managing the Partnership Co-ordinator (or equivalent role) and, either directly, or through the Co-ordinator line managing any other staff employed by the Partnership
- Reviewing the Performance of the Co-ordinator (or equivalent) and ensuring that a system of performance review is implemented and quality assured for all directly employed partnership staff
- Chairing those meetings of the Partnership that make decisions about student's accessing partnership resources and/or authorising any decisions about admitting students to partnership programmes
- Chairing those meetings concerned with the strategic development of the Partnership.
- Chairing those meetings of the Partnership when it is acting as a Fair Access Panel
- Reporting to whatever local structure has been agreed for securing the accountability of the Partnership to member schools
- Representing schools and the Partnership in meetings of the five Partnerships
- Representing schools and the Partnership and reporting on the work of the Partnership to the Executive Steering Group

The role of the Chair has usually been taken by a Headteacher but this is not set out in the agreement. It is up to the members schools acting collectively to make the decision as to who will be assigned to the role.

Payment for the role of Chair:

A serving Headteacher/Principal or teacher on a full time contract cannot receive any additional payment for carrying out the role of Chair, although the employing school's Trustees/Directors/Governors would be entitled to consider the additional responsibilities implicit in the role of Chair when setting the pay of that staff member.

A person fulfilling the role of the Chair who is not an employee of one of the partnership schools is able to receive a payment for the role. It is up to the local partnership member schools to decide the level of remuneration and the nature of the contract. The Local Authority views this as a matter for the locality but considers it essential that any such arrangements are open and transparent and subject to review. It is anticipated that the local partnership member schools will ensure that there are suitable arrangements for ensuring performance review of the Chair as an employee of the Partnership. It is likely that a Revised Partnership Agreement will include a requirement to include details of any such arrangements in Partnership financial reporting.

Compensating the Chair's School:

Where the Chair's role is taken by a serving member of staff it is seen as fair and reasonable that the school should receive some compensation for the loss of time to the school resulting from the Chair carrying out partnership duties and for the involvement of other staff in the school in working on partnership business. Practice has varied widely across the Partnerships in this respect. The Local Authority View is that whatever arrangements are made these should be agreed by the member schools of the Partnership, should be reviewed annually and should be reported alongside other financial information.

AS July 2020