

FORMAL NOTIFICATION OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CHESHIRE WEST GOVERNANCE ASSOCIATION

Notice has been given that the AGM will be held virtually on **Thursday 23rd June at 7pm**.
Following our short AGM our networking event will focus on the

‘Government’s White Paper’

Opportunity for all: strong schools with great teachers

See page 4 for full details

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/301364337847>

FOREWORD.....Janet Myers, Chair — Cheshire West Governance Association



After nine years on the Cheshire West Governance Association’s executive team, and seven years as chair, I will be standing down at the AGM in June. It has been a privilege to lead the association through a period of change, some of it planned such as recruiting a new executive team, modernising our events, and taking on the services of a paid administrator, other changes brought on by the pandemic such as the transition to virtual networking events, and our first online conference. I am pleased to leave behind a strong executive leading a thriving organisation that I know will continue to go from strength to strength. It has been great to work with the fantastic governors, trustees and governance professionals in Cheshire West. Thank you for supporting our events, and making the association such a vibrant platform to share information and good practice. I will continue to govern, and will remain a fervent advocate of the association. I look forward to seeing you at future events!

**WIN A
YEAR'S
FREE
MEMBERSHIP**



Cheshire West
Governance Association

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****THE ASSOCIATION IS PLEASED TO ADVISE THE COST OF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FOR YOUR TRUST OR SCHOOL BOARD WILL REMAIN AT £35 FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2022-2023****

Debbie Tomkinson, Secretary — Cheshire West Governance Association

As an association whose membership is made up of existing governors and trustees, we do understand the time and commitment that governors and trustees voluntarily give to schools. The association aims to promote good governance and the membership fees are used to help us achieve this aim. In the past year we have offered free events to our members including a new governors networking event, a session on school vision and an event specifically for the secondary and post-16 sector. All of our events have had positive feedback. The executive of the association have made a conscious decision not to increase the membership fees for several years and we think that an annual subscription fee of £35 which gives free access to our networking events for all board members represents good value for money. As a voluntary organisation, membership fees are vital to ensure the continuing success of the association.

Watch out for details before the end of June on how your Bursar/SBM can renew your subscription with CWGA. And if you are a school or trust that is considering joining us for the first time—we very much look forward to meeting you at one of our events!

*******WATCH OUT FOR NEWS OF OUR COMPETITION*******

Follow us on Social Media to be in with a chance to win a year's FREE membership to CWGA for your school or trust board

www.Facebook.com/yourCWGAfb

www.twitter.com/your_cwga

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CWGA 'supporting the work of governors, trustees & clerks'

SEND Review: Right support, right place, right time

Government consultation on the SEND and alternative provision system in England

The Government determined that there are three key challenges facing the SEND system: -

1. outcomes for children and young people with SEN or in alternative provision are poor
2. navigating the SEND system and alternative provision is not a positive experience for children, young people and their families
3. despite unprecedented investment, the system is not delivering value for money for children, young people and families

A vicious cycle of late intervention, low confidence and inefficient resource allocation is driving these challenges.

The plan is delivery of a single national SEND and alternative provision system, provide excellent provision from early years to adulthood, create a reformed and integrated role for alternative provision and improve system roles, accountabilities and reform the funding system therefore delivering change for children and families as laid out below: -

The case for change.

- Acknowledging change to ensure that more children and young people are set up to succeed in a sustainable, less bureaucratic system.

A single national SEND and AP system.

- An outline of what new national standards would cover, and how they would be delivered locally. There is a need for much greater consistency in how needs are identified and supported.

Excellent provision from early years to adulthood.

- Expanding on how provision across the system will be improved.

A reformed and integrated role for alternative provision.

- How this system will operate specifically for AP settings. The proposal is to create a national vision for AP enabling local areas to ensure that children and young people with challenging behaviour or with health needs get targeted support in mainstream settings, or access to time-limited or transitional places in alternative provision schools.

System roles, accountabilities and funding reform.

- Ensuring there are clear roles and responsibilities, alongside funding reform and robust accountability across processes and procedures in the system. All contributors within the system need to be clear on their responsibilities, have the right incentives and levers to fulfil those responsibilities and be held accountable for their role in delivery.

Delivering change for children and families.

- The plans for delivering the proposals set out in the green paper. Plans will be designed recognising the context of the ongoing response to and recovery from the pandemic, and that different settings and areas of the country are at different stages of readiness.

I have added some links below to the key content. The SEND and AP green paper consultation closes at 11:45pm on 22 July.

SEND review: right support, right place, right time

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/send-review-right-support-right-place-right-time>

National Governance Association - NGA green paper summary

<https://www.nga.org.uk/getmedia/b4cd1313-213d-40fb-ab82-b785f50ce79a/nga-green-paper-summary-20220401.pdf>



Cheshire West
Governance Association

Recruiting for new Executive Members



CWGA is run by volunteers, supported by our paid administrator. We are looking for serving governors, trustees and clerks to join us to help with the running of our association. The role is for a three-year term of office.

The association has been very successful in recent years so you would be joining a thriving and financially stable organisation:

- 129 schools/trust boards in Cheshire West and Chester are currently members of CWGA
- Services to members continued during lockdown and we host up to five events each year
- Networking events are well attended, with an average of 30 attendees at each event
- The association held its second virtual conference this year which was a resounding success and well attended by local governors, trustees, senior leaders and clerks.
- Feedback from events continues to be positive. At the last virtual networking event, 100% of attendees agreed that they had found the event useful and would attend a future event

We are looking for:

- Enthusiastic governors, trustees and clerks from any type of school and with any level of experience who will innovate and increase engagement with governing bodies and trust boards
- Governors, trustees and clerks who are willing to take or share responsibility for an area of work, e.g. social media engagement, articles for newsletter, assist with event/conference organisation

We can offer:

- A financially stable organisation with a strong membership
- A successful but flexible programme of events
- A place at the heart of CW&C governance and system leadership
- A chance to shape and improve governance in CW&C
- Free conference attendance in exchange for helping with the event

Interested? Want to find out more? Or do you just want to go ahead and receive a self nomination form! Then please contact us via email on cwga@cwgovernanceassoc.co.uk

'Achieving for Children: Responsibilities of the Governing Body for supporting Looked After Children, Previously Looked After Children and children with a social worker'



Date: Thursday 7th July - 7pm-9pm via Microsoft Teams

Delivered by: Cheshire West and Chester Virtual School: Alison Ismail, Deputy Headteacher of the Virtual School and Helen Hilditch, Acting Operational Lead.

Overview: The training session is an opportunity to focus on the statutory duties of the governing body in partnership with school senior leadership teams, for looked after children and previously looked after children. Also to promote the government guidance extending the role of the Virtual School Headteacher to promote the education of children with a social worker.

To book a place on this training session, please email Claire Bradley on <mailto:claire.bradley@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk>

CWGA AGM & Networking Event

Opportunity for all: strong schools with great teachers



Following our short AGM, we are delighted to have guest speaker Sam Henson, Director of Policy and Information from the NGA joining us to talk about the White Paper and Schools Bill.

This is a free event* for CWGA member schools

All governors/trustees/clerks/governance professionals are welcome!

Join us on Zoom on **Thursday 23rd June 2022 at 7pm**

Click on the Eventbrite link to secure your booking

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/301364337847>