

Report on School Governor Conference April 2017

Circulation Members of the School Governor network

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Summary Report on UMSGI Annual Conference 2017 which is organised and delivered from within

the Student Recruitment and Widening Participation Team

Action For information and comment

1. Context

1.1. The conference held on 27 April 2017 was the 5th annual conference provided by UMSGI. The conference is open to staff, Alumni, chairs and vice-Chairs and other external guests.

- 1.2. The conference is part of a package of institutional support provided to staff who are school and college governors. Other support includes a series of network meetings, online news and information and access to peer support provided through the online and face-to-face network.
- 1.3. 61 delegates attended the conference. The conference feedback survey received 31 responses, which is a 50.8% response rate.

2. Attendance

2.1 University of Manchester staff attending the conference are able to invite their Chair or Vice-Chair.

Table 1 – Delegates.	
Delegate type	Number
University staff	39 (64%)
Non-staff	22 (36%)
Total	61

2.2 From those who completed the survey:

15 of the 31 were attending the UMSGI conference for the first time. (48%)

80% of the staff governors attending had previously attended an UMSGI network meeting.

3. Type

The table below provides a breakdown of the different types of governors attending the Conference.

Table 2 – Governor type. Variety of governors completing the feedback		
Respondents		
Parent governors	13%	
Co-opted governors	32%	
Local Authority governors	13%	
Chairs	16%	
Vice-Chairs	10%	
Other/not a governor	16%	

4. Feedback

- 4.1. Feedback was extremely positive. 100% said that the conference was a good development opportunity.
- 4.2 Respondents were also positive about the organisation of the event with 100% agreeing that they received sufficient information regarding the arrangements in the lead up to the conference.
- 4.3 The table below provides the feedback received for each workshop.

Table 3 – Workshops. Delegates were asked to rate the workshops they attended. The number of delegates who rated workshops good, very good or excellent are as follows:

Workshop Title	Percentages
School data and target setting	92%
The Prevent Duty	80%
The Flourishing School	89%
Qualifications Reform	100%
How well do you know your governing body	100%
SEND	92%

4.4 Below is a short selection of feedback based on the workshops.

Table 4- Qualitative Data.

Excellent presentations and workshops and lots to take away to share with the rest of the staff and governors at my school.

All extremely good, great speakers and very detailed presentations.

The workshops were excellent - I only wish I could have attended a third workshop too. There was just the right blend of information and discussion opportunity.

Both workshops well prepared, and informative. Information based on practical experience, clear, and useful

4.5 Attendees were also asked to rate the speakers.

Table 5 - Speakers

Delegates were asked to rate the Conference speakers. The number of delegates who rated workshops good, very good or excellent are as follows:

Speaker	Percentage
Dr Tim Westlake, Conference Welcome and Introduction	96%
Mike Cladingbowl – Doing the Simple things Well	85%
Dr Andy Hodgkinson – 21 st Century Learning	96%
Dr Tony Breslin – The Future of School Governance	91%

4.6 Below is a short selection of feedback gathered via the online evaluation form.

Table 6- Qualitative Data.

- 1. Thank you for enabling me to attend such amazing event at the very last minute (thank you Alison). The event was well organised and the speakers are inspirational. The organisers must have worked extremely hard on this, well done to Alison and Stephanie!
- 2. The conference was fantastic and a really useful experience. It gave us lots to take away and think about and convey to our respective governing bodies. The workshops were excellent and the themes were well-chosen and topical.
- 3. Left me feeling better informed with a much greater body of knowledge to draw on in my new role as a Governor. Thanks to putting on such a valuable day, which was brilliantly organised.
- 4. Another excellent day providing governors with a chance to really challenge their thinking. The speakers were very thought provoking and the workshops provided a real opportunity for peer to peer support. Manchester City Council are fortunate to benefit from University staff as governors and the day also provides us with a different network opportunity with our governors. Thank for you for all your hard work.