

**Jeff Houston
Head of Pensions
Local Government Association,
18 Smith Square, Westminster,
London
W1P 3HZ**

3 December 2021

Sent via email: jeff.houston@local.gov.uk

Dear Jeff,

Education Sector Nominator for the Scheme Advisory Board

We would like to request a change to the Education Sector nominator in the Terms of Reference for the Scheme Advisory Board. The current approved group for the academy sector, is Academy Finance Directors and we would like to propose that this is changed to the Academies Finance and Assurance Steering Group (AFASG).

The Academy Finance Directors does not exist as a group in its own right, and we therefore believe that this group should be removed from the approved SAB nomination process and replaced by the AFASG.

Academies Finance and Assurance Steering Group

The AFASG includes academy trust chief financial officers, an academy trust executive principal and representatives from overarching academy collaborative bodies currently including:

Association of School and College Leaders
Finance Directors' Forum
National Association of Head Teachers
Institute of School Business Leadership
National Governance Association
Church of England Education Office
Catholic Education Service
Confederation of School Trusts

The AFASG's purpose is to drive improvements to meet the needs of the

academy sector in ensuring high standards of accountability and transparency in the use of public funds. The AFSAG has an agreed objective to take account of relevant requirements of other stakeholders including bodies responsible for the Local Government Pension Scheme. It is for this reason we are requesting SAB removes the Academy Finance Directors group as a nominator body for the education sector and replaces it with the AFASG.

The AFASG has three working groups, and as chairs of these groups and members of the AFASG, we are fully supportive of this proposal and give agreement following discussion with the other members of the AFASG to be a nominator group for the education sector representation.

If you have any queries about this letter please contact
Jennie.Mulrooney@education.gov.uk.

We look forward to your response.

Adrian Brook
Chair of Academies Finance and Assurance Steering Group
ESFA Deputy Director Assurance

Stephen Lester
Chair
Working Group 1

Karen Bromage
Chair
Working Group 2

Amanda Rawson
Chair
Working Group 3