**New governing body regulations affecting PLASC**

**Paper for SDF – 11th February 2014**

Regulations have been made which allow between two and five governing bodies to federate under a single governing body(from this spring new federation regulations will permit between two and six schools to federate). Up to now only about 20 schools have used these powers, so for this year we are continuing to record those schools as each having a governing body. Technically and legally they do - the problem is it is the same people who are the governors.

From spring this year we will be making new federation regulations which will give LAs (consortia) the powers to federate schools. We know LAs are waiting for these powers and we therefore expect there to be an increase in the number of federations taking place later this year. The knock on affect is that we also expect there to be an overall reduction in the number of governors as schools will be sharing a governing body.

For PLASC 2015 onwards, we need a way to report school governor statistics for these new federation arrangements if the numbers of governors recorded is to be accurate.

Currently, PLASC asks for:

**Governance**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Field Name** | **Field Length** | **Field Type** | **Sample Data** |
| Governance | 2 | Alphanumeric | CO |
| Head teacher on governing body | 1 | True/False | 1 |
| Male serving governors | 2 | Alphanumeric | 3 |
| Female serving governors | 2 | Alphanumeric | 3 |
| Welsh speaking governors | 2 | Alphanumeric | 3 |
| Governor vacancies | 2 | Alphanumeric | 3 |

Governance options are: Community, Voluntary aided, Voluntary controlled or Foundation.

England’s CBDS does not contain anything suitable to indicate federated schools. Governance options are: Community, Voluntary aided, Voluntary controlled, Foundation, Independent, Non-maintained, CTC or Academy.

A new data item (or items) may be required for this change.