



Archdiocese of Birmingham
Diocesan Education Service

Date: 20 July 2018

TO: Chairs of Boards of Directors, MAC Accounting Officers, Headteachers and Chairs of governing bodies in the Archdiocese of Birmingham

Dear Leaders in Catholic education,

RE MAC executive leadership (Catholic Senior Executive Leader - CSEL) update and applicability of Diocesan Advisory Rights

It has been no doubt a busy term for all and we hope that you will have the opportunity for a richly deserved break of some sort over the summer holiday period.

I am writing before the close of the academic year to update you on the development of the critical position of Catholic Senior Executive Leader (CEO equivalent) within our Diocesan MACs. Many thanks to all those who have engaged in whatever way with the consultation process in recent months. Valuable feedback was received which has enhanced greatly our collective understanding of the need for such an executive leadership position and, importantly, what further areas of development must be pursued and progressed in order to implement it successfully.

The following documents are now available for your review on the DES 'MAC Executive Leadership' webpage [<http://www.bdes.org.uk/mac-executive-leadership.html>]:

- (i) CSEL/CEO Development Consultation Summary of Responses
- (ii) CSEL/CEO DES Project Update: July 2018
- (iii) Revised Role Description and Person Specification for the role of a MAC Catholic Senior Executive Leader

You will see upon reviewing the above information, the DES acknowledge that implementation of these developments may be incremental and that the strategies deployed within existing MACs will need to be adapted to meet the needs of each particular MAC, acknowledging the shared vision for potential future growth. Do contact the project lead, Yvonne Salter Wright, if you would like to discuss the development of the CSEL role or the associated governance and accountability model. John Dwyer and Yvonne Brennan are key contacts at the DES and would be happy to discuss matters relating to academisation and leadership respectively.

Please could I highlight at this stage that it is imperative for all new or existing MACs thinking about establishing the position of the CSEL within their MAC to fully engage the Diocesan Education Service at the earliest possible stage. The Diocesan Advisory Rights for appointing headteachers/senior leaders are applicable to the role of the Catholic Senior Executive Leader, even when considering appointment to the position of a current Accounting Officer. (See the related document available on the following webpage: https://www.bdes.org.uk/uploads/7/2/8/5/72851667/1appointing_leaders_advisory_rights_advice_15.09.11_mb.pdf)

In conjunction with ensuring that we utilise the various networks we already have (Governor, Director and Chair of MAC briefing and induction sessions, Headteacher briefings, etc.) there will be further opportunities for you to engage and discuss these developments as we move forward collaboratively to secure, project and improve Catholic education.

With my thanks, prayers and best wishes for a well-deserved and restful summer break

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Hardy'.

Adam Hardy
Director of Education