
Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship Schools Networks: Recruitment of a Chair of the Programme Management Group

Background to ESDGC Schools Networks

ESDGC Schools Networks is a currently informally constituted organisation which contributes to preparing young people to understand and shape the globalising and interdependent world they will inherit.

In making this contribution ESDGC Schools Networks supports schools, helping them to meet the challenge of providing “opportunities for teachers and learners to consider global issues; make links between what is personal, local, national and global; engage in culturally-diverse experiences; critically evaluate their own values and attitudes; and develop skills that will enable them to challenge injustice, prejudice and discrimination.”¹

During the past five years 11 local networks have been established across Wales, involving teachers, advisers, local authority officers and education advisers, and voluntary organisation staff. The networks are playing a key role in initiating, facilitating and coordinating ESDGC relevant teacher professional development workshops and events, including school based projects, and networking and peer learning opportunities.

For the remainder of the 2009-10 school year (and we hope beyond), local and regional networks will be given regionally based support through four ESDGC Schools Networks staff, a Programme Assistant and a national Programme Manager. The Schools Networks operate within a budget of, currently, approximately £210,000 per annum. It is the intention that future plans, structures and budgets will be developed during 2010 to take our work forward. Discussions with our financial supporters (the Department for International Development and the Welsh Assembly Government) will be a key feature in that process.

To help in the strategic management and development of this work ESDGC Schools Networks is requiring a Chair of its Programme Management Group (PMG). PMG is responsible for the Schools Networks strategy, finances, operations, and for holding the Programme Manager to account. PMG meets four times a year.

As part of the development of longer term plans PMG itself is going through a process of redevelopment. The search for a new Chair is part of that process. PMG currently is developing towards a membership of 14 people, including:

- three (head) teachers and ITE tutors
- two representatives of WAG’s ESDGC Advisory Panel

¹ [http://www.esd-wales.org.uk/english/school_sector/downloads/ESDGC%20common%20\(e\).pdf](http://www.esd-wales.org.uk/english/school_sector/downloads/ESDGC%20common%20(e).pdf)

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- two members with an interest in and familiarity with voluntary education support organisations involved in ESDGC or related work (such as development education or environmental education)
 - two members with an involvement in national networks with ESDGC relevant education interests
 - two local authority education advisers
 - one member representing Cyfanfyd (in the role of representing the ESDGC Schools Networks' legal 'host organisation', charged with employment of ESDGC Schools Networks staff and financial accounting to funders).

In addition PMG can co-opt two further members.

The Programme Manager will usually take part in PMG meetings.

PMG meetings are normally held four times per year.

A General Purposes Sub-Committee is also led by the Chair. Apart from the Chair it consists of the two Advisory Panel members on PMG, and the representative of the host organisation. It meets or can be consulted when needed to make decisions between scheduled PMG meetings. The Programme Manager will normally be part of the Sub-Committee's work.

Role description for Chair

The Chair will be expected to fulfil the normal duties of a Chair, including chairing meetings, leading the PMG, working with the Programme Manager and providing them with support and appraisals, being the main contact for the Programme Manager between PMG meetings. The Chair will also have regular one-to-ones with the Programme Manager to discuss and agree his/her workplan, and will carry out annual appraisals.

A full role description will be agreed with the Chair upon appointment, and the expectation is that the appointment will be for two years. An honorarium of £2,200 per annum is available and travel costs incurred whilst on PMG business will be reimbursed.

Person Specification for Chair

Essentials

- Commitment to ESDGC Schools Networks and its aims
- Understanding of the duties and responsibilities of a Chair
- Willingness to put time and effort into the Chair role
- Ability to carry out this role without conflict of interest because of involvement in other organisations or in other roles for or on behalf of ESDGC Schools Networks

Personal qualities

- Good, independent judgement
- Impartiality, fairness and confidentiality
- Willingness to speak his or her mind
- Tact and diplomacy
- Respect for others
- Willingness to learn new skills

Specific abilities

- Strategic vision
- Creative thinking
- Leading meetings, ensuring meetings are run competently with full participation by attendees
- Effective team member
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills

Experience

- Understanding of education in Wales
- Of providing strategic leadership
- Of supervising and supporting staff

How to apply

Please send a CV and a statement about why you are interested in this role and how you meet its requirements.

The application should be sent by email to hjfricke@btinternet.com or by post to:

Confidential

Harm-Jan Fricke
53 Norreys Avenue
Oxford
OX1 4ST

The closing date for applications is Wednesday 20th January 2010. Informal interviews involving members of the Programme Management Group and the Programme Manager will be held after that date but before 9th February PMG meeting, when PMG hopes to confirm the selection of a new Chair.

Further information

If you would like an informal discussion about the role or would like further information, please do not hesitate to Harm-Jan Fricke, Acting Chair of PMG, either by 'phone (01865 248746) or e-mail (hjfricke@btinternet.com).