

**Summary Notes from the Chairs' Forum/  
Association of Sandwell Governing Bodies Meeting  
held at 6.15pm on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at  
Guardian House, West Bromwich**

**Welcome and Apologies**

Elaine Benbow, one of the ASGB co-chairs' opened the meeting, thanked attendees and invited Mr Ward to present his update.

**Chris Ward, Director of Education, Skills and Employment**

Mr Ward's presentation is attached (appendix 1), additional notes arising during the meeting were recorded separately (appendix 1a).

**Elaine Benbow, Co-Chair ASGB: Visioning**

Mrs Howard was unable to attend the meeting and Mrs Benbow kindly presented this item on her behalf.

The presentation is attached (appendix 2), additional notes arising during the meeting were recorded separately (appendix 2a).

In support of the presentation, members were referred to the NGA publication: 'Resource Pack' Please see:

<https://www.nga.org.uk/Knowledge-Centre/Vision-ethos-and-strategic-direction/Vision/Growing-Governance-resource-pack-how-to-create-a-v.aspx>

**Minutes of the Meeting held 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

Minutes were agreed, no matters outstanding.

**Updates from the ASGB Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee met prior to this meeting.

Main topic for discussion was the ASGB conference to be held on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2020. The flyer for the event will follow soon.

Cost of attendance was discussed and members agreed that it was important to differentiate between the cost for ASGB members and non-members.

The other main issue for discussion was the ASGB website and the future maintenance of the site.

**Open Forum**

A member highlighted the increase in mental health issues, both for pupils and staff in schools and the level of support needed. Staff needed the tools to recognise the issues; one governor recommended a half day First Aid Mental Health Awareness Course and suggested that Head Teachers' might consider arranging a session for their staff in school.