

## SLOUGH SCHOOLS FORUM

### SCHOOLS GROUP:

Maggie Waller (Chair), John Constable (Vice-Chair), Gillian Coffey, Sally Eaton, Philip Gregory, Valerie Harffey, Kathleen Higgins, Helen Huntley, Richard Kirkham, Jo Matthews, Navroop Mehat, Angela Mellish, Eddie Neighbour, Carol Pearce, Jon Reekie, Jo Rockall and Nicky Willis

### OBSERVERS:

Councillor Shabnum Sadiq

### LOCAL AUTHORITY

Domenico Barani, Cate Duffy, Sarah Forsyth, George Grant, Michael Jarrett, Johnny Kyriacou, John Voytal and Neil Wilcox

**DATE & TIME: TUESDAY, 6TH MARCH, 2018 AT 8.00 AM FOR 8.15AM  
BEECHWOOD RESEARCH AND CONFERENCE CENTRE, LONG  
READINGS LANE, SLOUGH, BERKSHIRE, SL2 1QE**

## AGENDA

### Page

1. Apologies
2. Declarations of Interest

*All Members who believe they have a Disclosable Pecuniary or other Pecuniary or non pecuniary Interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting must declare that interest and, having regard to the circumstances described in Section 3 paragraphs 3.25 – 3.27 of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter is discussed.*

*The Chair will ask Members to confirm that they do not have a declarable interest.*

*All Members making a declaration will be required to complete a Declaration of Interests at Meetings form detailing the nature of their interest.*



3. Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 17 January 2018 **(Pages 1 - 8)**
4. Update on national/local funding issues
5. Confirmation of Indicative Budgets 2018-19 & Correction of Baseline **(Pages 9 - 14)**
6. 2018-19 Early Years Block
7. Virtual School Headteacher's update **(Pages 15 - 32)**
8. PFI update report **(Pages 33 - 36)**
9. High Needs Block Budget 2018-19 **(Pages 37 - 44)**
10. Update from Task Groups
11. Academies Update
12. 2017-18 Agenda Forward Plan & Key Decisions and Issues Log **(Pages 45 - 50)**
13. Any Other Business

**Slough Schools Forum- Meeting held on Wednesday, 17th January, 2018**

**Present:** Maggie Waller, Holy Family Primary School (Chair)  
John Constable, Langley Grammar School (Vice-Chair)  
Sally Eaton, Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) providers - Early Years  
Valerie Harffey, Ryvers Primary School  
Kathleen Higgins, Beechwood Secondary School  
Helen Huntley, Haybrook College / PRU  
Jo Matthews, Littledown School / PRU  
Navroop Mehat, Wexham Court Primary School  
Angela Mellish, St Bernard's Grammar School  
Eddie Neighbour, Upton Court Grammar School  
Carol Pearce, Penn Wood Primary School  
Jon Reekie, Baylis Court Trust MAT / Godolphin Infant School  
Jo Rockall, Herschel Grammar School

**Observers:** Chris Thomas, Langley Grammar School

**Officers:** Catherine Cochran, Domenico Barani, Cate Duffy, George Grant, Michael Jarrett, Johnny Kyriacou, Tony Madden and John Voytal

**Apologies:** Tracey Bradshaw, Gillian Coffey, Philip Gregory and Nicky Willis

**615. Apologies**

The Chair welcomed Chris Thomas, Deputy Headteacher at Langley Grammar School, as an Observer to the meeting.

Apologies for absence had been received from Tracey Bradshaw, Gillian Coffey, Peter Collins and Nicky Willis. It was noted that Cate Duffy would need to leave at 9.00am.

There were no apologies from Richard Kirkham.

Members were informed that the running order of the agenda would change during the meeting.

**616. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**617. Minutes of Previous Meeting held on Wednesday 6 December 2017**

The minutes of the Schools Forum meeting held on 6 December 2017 were approved as a correct record.

## **Matters Arising from those Minutes:**

**Minute 601 refers:** Following the deadline for responses from academy proprietors, Peter Collins was confirmed as a member of Schools Forum, representing academy schools with effect from the date of this meeting.

**Minute 603 refers:** the revised Schools Forum Constitution was to be approved by Council. It was understood Cate Duffy could do this, with her delegated powers, which would enable the document to be posted on the SBC website. Cate Duffy to follow this up.

**Minute 608 refers:** For clarity it was confirmed that the increased places available at Marish and Littledown would take effect from September 2018.

Meetings of the Resources Base Group had commenced.

The definitive list of Resource bases in Slough remained outstanding.

### **618. 2017/18 DSG Budget Monitoring report (Schools Block, High Needs Block, Early Years Block & Centrally Retained)**

It was noted there was an anticipated £32,000 underspend in Schools Block (centrally retained) due to staff vacancies within the Admissions service.

George Grant confirmed the anticipated DSG projections for 2017-18 was a total overspend of £3.4M across the Schools, Early Years and High Needs blocks.

#### **8.20am: Angela Mellish and Vikram Hansrani arrived at the meeting**

Early Years was currently forecasting an underspend of £720,000, which was due to a lower than expected uptake of 30-hour provision. The underspend would be carried into the next academic year. Members noted these figures were best estimate as not all factors were yet known and, for example, would depend on level of uptake of child care entitlement for working parents.

#### **8.25pm: Johnny Kyriacou arrived at the meeting**

It was noted that the main area of concern was the High Needs Block (HNB) which had a reported overspend of £4.14M plus and included £1.5M carried forward from 2016/17. The overspend from the previous year reflected that of the current year and commitments were more than budgeted. Further to these pressures, unaccrued invoices from 2016/17, totalling approximately £400,000 had been discovered. It was understood this was in part due to budget management issues and the move in returning the service to the Local Authority (LA). Assurance was given that this would not reoccur and that the SBC team continued to work towards achieving accurate costings. A list of measures to bring the budget back in line had been compiled but there had been an assurance not to transfer monies from the Schools Block. Members were informed that the overspend could not be rectified in the short term.

The Task Group were in discussion about possible methods of saving money, in consultation with schools.

There continued to be concern about bandings and the number of out of borough placements. It was suggested the three special school Headteachers should meet to discuss the latter. A number of long term issues around administration and resources were now becoming evident. It was confirmed there was a strategic plan which it was suggested should be presented to Schools Forum.

Cate Duffy indicated that there were three main issues behind the overspend: underlying pressures with more children with higher needs, administrative issues which were being uncovered and the lack of funding for the residential places at Arbour Vale which should have been made from Social Care and not DSG.

A great deal of work was being applied to make better use of the budget and to support outcomes for children. There was a suggestion that there was sufficient evidence to apply to the ESFA for additional HNB funding. Any actions would be made in full consultation with schools and outcomes would be shared with Schools Forum for discussion.

It was suggested there was a need for a projection of the potential need for places and an understanding of that need. It was queried whether any monies could be recouped if Health and Social Care should have been funding. It was felt it would be difficult to now go back but there was awareness for the future and Health and Social Care were engaging with the process.

As noted, the deficit would be carried forward; although there remained the aim to reduce it in 2018/19. It was pointed out that funding up to the age of 25 would also impact. All background evidence could be provided if required.

It was noted that the Borough's situation reflected that nationally, with 78% of LAs reporting an overspend on their HNBs (an average of £2M).

**The meeting moved to item number 6 on the agenda:**

#### **619. Funding Formula changes for 2018/19**

Further to the previous Schools Forum meeting, a consultation had been conducted with schools, putting forward three funding options. This had now closed, with a 41% return, the majority of which were in favour of 'Option 2', moving halfway towards implementation of the NFF funding rates. A revised set of modelling of schools' budgets had been drawn up as per the final DfE budget allocation which was based on the October 2017 census figures. This had resulted in approximately £342,000 additional funding to share amongst schools. The Task Group had met on Monday 15 January and decided to put forward two options for the sharing of these monies:

1. Based on total balance available;
2. Based on the presumption that Schools Forum would agree to transfer funding to CSSB of £176,000 (as discussed previously); a remainder of £165,000 was left to be allocated equitably across schools. Schools Forum approved the recommendation of the Task Group to allocate this funding in proportion across the factors in the formula.

A question was raised about the income from fining parents in relation to attendance. It was agreed that the response would be shared with Schools Forum.

It was noted that the final Schools Block APT return had to be submitted to the DfE on Friday 19 January.

**The meeting moved to agenda item number 8:**

**620. Central Services Schools Block**

The report was discussed and it was explained that the DfE had introduced a fourth block to the DSG for 2018/19, the Central Services Schools Block (CSSB) which comprised historical and ongoing commitments to support LA functions including the retained elements of the ESG. It was explained that due to inaccuracies in the 2017/18 baseline return, the DfE allocation was short by £276,370. The report recommended the following actions as a way to remedy the allocation between blocks:

- Transfer £124,325 for licences from the SB into the CSSB.
- Transfer £52,000 for the variance on historical items from the SB to the CSSB
- Reduce remaining budgets within the CSSB by £100,045

Cate Duffy made an alternative proposal that the full balance of £276,370 be transferred to the CSSB.

After lengthy discussion Schools Forum agreed the following:

- that £124,325 for copyright licences and £52,000 for historical items (£176,325 total), should be transferred from SB to CSSB for 2018/19 (a one-year commitment);
- although sympathetic to SBC's position, Schools Forum agreed there was insufficient evidence to justify the transfer of a further £100,045, in particular, no modelling had been provided to illustrate the impact of this on schools' budgets, as had been done for the £176,325;
- that the shortfall of budget in the CSSB, £100,045 would be reviewed taken from areas within the ongoing commitments budgets. Details of the proposed budget reductions would be presented to Schools Forum at their next meeting.

It was requested that a report should be made to Schools Forum the following year, giving more detail for clarity.

It was requested that the references to the Virtual Head be amended to read 'Virtual School'. It was noted that this was a statutory duty.

**9.05am: Cate Duffy left the meeting**

**The meeting returned to the running order of the agenda:**

**621. Early Years Formula 2018/19**

Michael Jarrett informed the meeting that the Early Years Task Group had met on 16 January. Forum noted the Task Group's recommendations regarding the implementation of EYNFF for 2018-19. The Group favoured the third proposed option with the Universal Base Rate of £5.20 with inflation uplift of 2.8%, bringing the rate to £5.35 an hour. The model had been tested for sustainability and all

providers would see an increase. The deprivation supplementary allowance would be increased to £0.75 per hour. The centrally retained element of the Early Years Block would be 5%, a reduction from 7%. Current calculations indicated a surplus for contingency. Nationally there had been a low take up of the 30 hour provision and there was a need to build contingency in order to mitigate that. It was noted that the allocation from the DfE to SBC was £15.3M.

A marketing campaign was to be arranged across Slough promoting 2-year old places, in order to generate interest.

Across the five maintained nurseries the DfE supplementary funding allocation of £1.1M had been reduced to £840,000. Michael Jarrett explained he had met with Headteachers, who had all agreed this should be paid as a lump sum.

There had been positive feedback from the Task Group at their meeting held the day before this meeting and the slides of that meeting would be circulated to all Schools Forum members.

It was pointed out that deprivation funding, currently based on FSM, would need to be considered in the future, possibly modelling the use of IDACI. This would be a piece of work to be carried out during the next academic year.

An updated report would be provided at the next Schools Forum meeting.

## **622. Growth Fund 2018/19**

It was explained this was an annual review of criteria and that two additional items were being proposed.

Tony Madden reported that more secondary schools were now part of Growth Fund as pressure on places worked through. Bulge classes had been budgeted for but it was noted that some might be deferred.

Over the past year there had been consideration of funding of bulge classes for the second year, noting that academies were funded differently. This applied where children joined after the October census and therefore there was a further funding lag. Schools Forum acknowledged it was not setting a precedent but it was agreed to fund for those children joining a school between the two censuses.

The criteria for numbers in excess of PAN was agreed.

Schools Forum noted the forecast out turn for 2017/18.

The DSG top-slice for 2018/19 was confirmed at £900,000 (with a carry forward of £175,000) with more secondary schools included and fewer primaries as expansions rolled through. There was a forecasted expenditure of approximately £920,000 with contingency for unexpected growth and projects.

Overall, the Growth Fund was in a healthy position and the criteria as set out in section 2.1 of the report were agreed.

It was explained that SBC had agreed to underwrite a number of places at Grove Academy in order to enable the school to open. This was a requirement of opening the school and there had not been sufficient time to consult with Schools Forum. A

request for £180,000 had been made to fund 'ghost places' and Schools Forum was asked to consider funding 50% from the underspend on Growth Fund. Schools Forum agreed an element of underspend (approximately £90,000) should be used to part-fund (50%) of 'ghost places' at Grove Academy for 2017-18 only. This would result in a carry forward of £85,000.

Schools Forum agreed the Growth Fund criteria as above, with primary and secondary AWPU rates agreed based on 2018/19 formula.

#### **9.40pm: Tony Madden left the meeting**

George Grant thanked John Voytal for all the work he had done, as this would be his last Schools Forum meeting. Members endorsed George Grant's sentiments.

#### **The meeting returned to the running order of the agenda:**

#### **623. De-Delegation Report 2018-19**

It was noted this was an annual report seeking approval from the maintained schools' Schools Forum members to de-delegate the funding for the SEBDOS Behaviour Support Service.

Unit costs for primary and secondary schools were queried, as Schools Forum maintained schools' members had agreed the same rates for both the primary and secondary phases in December 2015. It was noted that, although the overall amount was not affected it did affect the hours to schools. It was understood this information had been incorrect the previous year.

Maintained school representatives at the meeting agreed to de-delegate the funding for the SEBDOS Behaviour Support Service, requesting a revised report be circulated to them for evidence and clarity about the final de-delegation amounts per school, based on the correct rates.

It was noted that the overall amount allocated would decrease as more schools became academies.

The Clerk would arrange for the revised report to be published on the SBC website.

#### **624. Update from Task Groups: 5-16, High Needs Block and Early Years (verbal)**

**5-16:** Already noted.

**High Needs:** an email was to be sent out arranging a further meeting prior to the next Schools Forum meeting. The banding and Resource Base reviews were going ahead, with the two Task Groups being established.

**Early Years:** Already noted.

#### **625. Academies Update**

There was nothing to report.

#### **626. 2017/18 Forward Agenda Plan and Key Decisions Log**



The 2017/18 Forward Agenda Plan and Key Decisions Log were noted and would be updated by the Chair and Clerk.

The Chair pointed out that the appointment of Chair and Vice Chair had been moved to July, prior to the September meeting.

(Note: The Meeting opened at 8.15 am and closed at 10.00 am)

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**SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM**  
**6<sup>th</sup> March 2018**  
**Directorate of Children Learning and Skills**

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**Confirmation of Indicative Budgets 2018/19 & Correction of Baseline**

**1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 This report is to provide information on the draft school budgets that have been adjusted since being submitted to the Department of Education (DfE) by the deadline date of 19<sup>th</sup> January 2018. The budgets are subject to verification by the DfE and upon receipt of this the budgets will be issued to schools by the deadline of February 28<sup>th</sup>.

**2. BACKGROUND**

**2.1.1 Incorrect Baseline – How did it happen**

The Council was asked by the ESFA to submit a return giving the “baseline” for 2017-18 under the 4 new blocks as part of the process to prepare for the NFF. This return was incorrect in the following aspects:

- Incorrect Central Services Schools Block (CSSB) baseline for 18-19, and
- Incorrect reduction in the Schools Block (SB) for the Council’s PFI contribution

**2.1.2 Lower CSSB**

The baselining exercise asked for planned expenditure in 2017-18 under the four block headings that were to be used in 2018-19. Although guidance was issued by the ESFA, this was unclear in some respects resulting in the “ongoing responsibilities” within this new block being understated. Using the information supplied by the council, the DfE only allocated a total of **£0.597m**. If the correct information was supplied this would have been **£0.901m**.

**2.1.3 Reduction for the Council’s PFI contribution**

As a result of the way in which the baseline submission was completed the DfE incorrectly deducted from the SB a total of **£0.548m** representing the Council’s contribution for the PFI factor. The EFA, using information reported elsewhere, is aware that the Council contributes **£0.500m** to the SB in towards the PFI factor. This led to them deducting approximately this amount from the SB in the 2018/19 allocations.

- 2.1.4 The baselines for the blocks affected is shown in the table below

DETAILS	2017-18 Allocation £'m	2017-18 Baseline Exercise £'m	2018-19 Allocation £'m	Variance
	Column A	Column B	Column C	Col C-B
<b>Schools Block</b>				
Schools Budget Share	122.470	121.206	126.587	
ESG Addition	0.420			
Explicit Growth	0.900	0.900	0.900	
<b>SB Total</b>	<b>123.790</b>	<b>122.106</b>	<b>127.487</b>	<b>5.381</b>
<b>Central Block</b>		0.597	0.625	0.028
<b>CSSB Total</b>		<b>0.597</b>	<b>0.625</b>	<b>0.028</b>
<b>High Needs Block</b>				
Special School and Unit funding	22.133	23.100	22.724	
Other High Needs Budget		0.120		
<b>HNB Total</b>	<b>22.133</b>	<b>23.220</b>	<b>22.720</b>	<b>-0.500</b>
<b>Grand Total SB and HNB</b>	<b>145.923</b>	<b>145.923</b>	<b>150.840</b>	<b>4.910</b>

### 3. AGREED ADJUSTMENTS

3.1.1 An unscheduled meeting of Schools Forum members was convened and the Council's proposal to correct the blocks to reverse the omissions outlined above was agreed.

3.1.2 This is detailed in the table below.

Details	Current Allocation £'m	Agreed Change £'m	Revised Allocation £'m
<b>Schools Block</b>			
Schools Budget Share	126.587	0.548	127.135
Explicit Growth	0.900		0.900
<b>SB Total</b>	<b>127.487</b>	<b>0.548</b>	<b>128.04</b>
<b>Central Block</b>	0.625	0.276	0.901
<b>CSSB Total</b>	<b>0.625</b>	<b>0.276</b>	<b>0.901</b>
<b>High Needs Block</b>			
Special School and Unit funding	22.724	-0.824	21.90
Other High Needs Budget			
<b>HNB Total</b>	<b>22.72</b>		<b>21.90</b>
<b>Grand Total SB and HNB</b>	<b>150.84</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>150.84</b>

- 3.1.3 It was also noted, that whilst the HNB had increased by £591,000 year on year from 17-18 to 18-19, £928,000 had already been deducted for the transfer of the funding for SEN resource provisions and units.
- 3.1.4 As part of the DfE funding changes for 2018-19, the DfE “will not make a deduction to schools block pupil numbers for high needs places in mainstream schools”.... “The schools budget share (or equivalent academy funding) will be based on the total number of pupils on the roll of the school, including those in a special unit or resourced provision”.
- 3.1.5 This in effect means that the funding and responsibility for the £4k element for SEN resource provisions and units now lies with the school. To enable this change, **£0.928m** was transferred from the HNB to the SB. The £6k element will still be funded from the HNB. Further information can be found on the links below.

[Pre-16 schools funding: guidance for 2018 to 2019 - GOV.UK](#)

[High needs funding arrangements: 2018 to 2019 - GOV.UK](#)

\* Schools revenue funding 2018-19 Operational Guide

Detail	£'m
2017-18 HNB Base	22.133
2018-19 HNB Base, excluding units 0.928)	22.724
Increase	0.591
18-19 HNB Block adjustment	0.824
Proposed Base HNB 18-19	<b>21.900</b>

- 3.1.6 This decision will result in a recalculation of individual school budgets and the revised allocations are shown on Appendix A. This allocation was done on the same basis as previously agreed by Schools' Forum following the consultation process.

## 4 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1.1 That this Schools' Forum notes the following transfers that were agreed at the unscheduled meeting of Schools' Forum members on February 20<sup>th</sup> 2018;
- £176,325 from HNB to the CSSB,
  - £100,045 from HNB to the CSSB for ongoing responsibilities,
  - £548,000 from HNB to the SB for PFI.

And that is also

- Notes the most recent schools budget shares, and
- Notes the adjustment by the DfE for Resource Units from the HNB to the SB of £928,000

## **5 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 5.1 Making the proposed adjustments will best align the funding into the appropriate blocks for 2018-19.

## **6 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 4.1 Appendix A sets out the individual school budgets (ISB) reflecting the most recent APT.

## **7 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 5.1 Not applicable.

## **8 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS**

8.1 Monitoring Officer

The relevant legal provisions are contained within the main body of this report.

8.2 Section 151 Officer – Strategic Director of Resources

The financial implications of the report are outlined in the supporting information.

8.3 Access Implications

There are no access implications.

## **9 CONSULTATION**

- 9.1 See paragraphs 1.1 above.

Contact for further information

Domenico Barani

Group Accountant - Children and Schools

[Domenico.barani@slough.gov.uk](mailto:Domenico.barani@slough.gov.uk)

## Appendix A: ISB from December APT

	Budget Shares agreed at SF	Proposed budget shares after recent adjustments	School by School analysis
<b>Schools Budget shares 2018.19</b>			
Baylis Court School	4,368,490	4,368,490	0
Beechwood School	4,781,368	4,811,801	30,433
Castleview Primary School	1,930,335	1,948,541	18,206
Cippenham Infant School	1,093,630	1,102,971	9,341
Cippenham Primary School	3,154,904	3,185,577	30,673
Claycots School	6,353,894	6,386,443	32,549
Colnbrook Church of England Primary School	973,352	982,373	9,021
Ditton Park Academy	4,080,079	4,081,105	1,026
Eden Girls' School, Slough	2,668,438	2,687,499	19,061
Foxborough Primary School	1,444,390	1,451,396	7,006
Godolphin Infant School	1,369,820	1,369,820	0
Grove Academy	785,286	874,511	89,225
Herschel Grammar School	3,380,743	3,405,499	24,756
Holy Family Catholic Primary School	1,674,686	1,674,686	0
Iqra Slough Islamic Primary School	2,579,150	2,604,299	25,149
James Elliman Academy	2,804,048	2,804,048	0
Khalsa Primary School	1,620,485	1,635,776	15,291
Langley Grammar School	3,809,463	3,809,463	0
Langley Hall Primary Academy	2,869,315	2,896,833	27,518
Lynch Hill Enterprise Academy	3,042,796	3,064,924	22,128
Lynch Hill School Primary Academy	3,434,192	3,468,697	34,504
Marish Primary School	2,841,303	2,869,278	27,975
Montem Academy	3,763,916	3,763,916	0
Our Lady of Peace Catholic Primary and Nursery School	2,421,553	2,421,553	0
Parlaunt Park Primary Academy	2,433,895	2,457,635	23,740
Penn Wood Primary and Nursery School	3,170,927	3,170,927	0
Pippins School	748,356	749,708	1,352
Priory School	3,294,234	3,326,726	32,491
Ryvers School	2,507,057	2,531,621	24,565
Slough and Eton Church of England Business and Enterprise College	5,828,188	5,828,188	0
St Anthony's Catholic Primary School	2,284,208	2,306,171	21,963
St Bernard's Catholic Grammar School	2,836,807	2,836,807	0
St Ethelbert's Catholic Primary School	1,761,763	1,773,701	11,938
St Joseph's Catholic High School	3,965,495	3,965,495	0
St Mary's Church of England Primary School	2,367,075	2,389,796	22,721
The Godolphin Junior Academy	2,051,819	2,072,103	20,284
The Langley Academy	5,033,863	5,069,499	35,636
The Langley Academy Primary	1,305,491	1,317,765	12,273
The Westgate School	4,792,300	4,792,300	0
Upton Court Grammar School	3,691,992	3,718,758	26,766
Western House Academy	2,455,181	2,478,733	23,552
Wexham Court Primary School	2,609,404	2,634,811	25,407
Wexham School	4,256,472	4,256,472	0
Willow Primary School	1,771,063	1,788,238	17,175
School Budget Share	<b>126,411,230</b>	<b>127,134,953</b>	<b>723,722</b>
Growth	900,000	900,000	
Top slice to CSSB	176,000	0	
	<b>127,487,230</b>	<b>128,034,953</b>	<b>547,722</b>

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## Virtual School Headteacher's update: March 2018

### Activity

Established leadership has been in place for the last 18 months. The team is now complete with specialists for each age range, from birth to 18 and where relevant 25.

Children are at the heart of what we do and their opinions have been actively sought. We take a 'you said, we did' approach. The child's voice has been heard clearly through the Coram Bright Spots Survey and Personal Education Plans (PEPs). For example we include the child in making the choice, when moving to secondary school.

We offer 1 PEP meeting a year from birth until the child starts in any Early Years setting. From that point on all the way to age 16 they have a PEP meeting 3 times a year to coincide with school terms. Between the ages of 16-18 they have 2 PEPs a year. Beyond 18 they have educational support, for example through university bursary funding. Peps are attended by the child and foster carer. The children have an engaging section to fill in to hear their views. There are sections on the care status of the child; attendance and any exclusions; any SEND needs, including extra support; attainment and progress since the last meeting and the emotional health and well being of the children. From this targets are reviewed and new targets set. 96%+ of these PEPs happen and the typical PEP is now of good quality.

There has been a transformation in the quality of data held by the Virtual School and record keeping. Once systems were in place, it revealed approximately a third of our children and young people were not having their educational needs met. Those ready for mainstream are in mainstream schools. Those who need an EHCP now have one, and we will meet the conversion deadline in March 18. Children with special needs have had individual plans put in place. This approach has had impact on the outcomes for our SEND children.

Partnership working with a wide range of professionals around the child has developed markedly. Examples include the Slough schools, educational psychologists, the clinicians in the Hubs, SBC Young People's Service and the NHS. This has supported the improved performance of students in and out of borough

The offer to children has significantly developed in all age ranges and reflects the differing needs as they mature. For example the younger children are sent books related to their individual interests. Children in later Primary Years can do 11+ tuition. Year 11 have enhanced career visits. Post 16 have taster days at universities. Care Leavers have drop in sessions to re-take maths and English GCSEs

### Other successful Activity

- the Awards Evening,
- the 'Count Me In' Conference
- Activity Days and Revision Days.
- training of foster carers, new designated teachers and adopters
- Visits to Brunel and Oxford universities



Attendance and exclusion tracked weekly and followed up with social workers and schools

In line with Children and Social work Act 2017 developed offer to DTs in Slough schools with Special Guardians and adopters

Virtual School held to account through regular well attended multi-disciplinary meetings such as meetings with Governors Designated teachers and cross sector professionals

Foster carer and adopter drop-ins held. Panels attended by Virtual School include SEMRAC, CME, Foster Panel, Placement Panel, Care Leavers and Joint Parenting.

Comments from survey of designated teachers very positive, Termly newsletter to DTs

Pupil Premium Plus funding paid through SMART targets in PEPs and has raised attainment

## Impact

Results for Slough children in the exams in summer 2017 were better than they have ever been for Slough CLA and were one of the best in the region. For example the 11 year old CLAs did better than children not in care both locally and nationally. See following report for detail

Improved attainment by those in alternative provision.

## Priorities in Action Plan for 2018-19

To use evidence based practice to target Virtual School work, including spending of Pupil Premium Plus and Post 16 funding

To ensure Year 12 and 13 get the same service as the rest of the Virtual School

To improve support for post 18s and care leavers for their education

To ensure Children Missing Education and NEETs are returned to appropriate provision in a timely way

To improve service offered to young people known to YOT

To be compliant with current legislation (GDPR and Children and Social Work Act)

To continue to raise aspiration for our CLA of all ages and stages

To further develop the employment Offer

To improve support to foster carers to support Education

To celebrate Children Looked After



# Slough Children's Services Trust

## Education of Slough Children Looked After (CLA)

Slough Virtual School Anne Bunce Headteacher 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018



# How do the results of CLA compare with the wider cohort of children in your schools?

---

Based on very small cohorts of eligible children, (given in brackets) and using 2016 comparison data

- Exceed in Early Years (2)
- Exceed in Year 1 Phonics check (1)
- Slightly below in Key Stage 1 (2)
- Exceed in Key Stage 2 (10)
- Below in GCSE (17)



# How do the educational results of CLA compare to those in other authorities?

Based on very small cohorts of eligible children,(given in brackets) and using 2016 comparison data

- Exceed in Early Years (2)
- Exceed in Year 1 Phonics check (1)
- Match in Key Stage 1 (2)
- Considerably exceed in Key Stage 2 (10)
- Broadly match in GCSE (17)



[www.scstrust.co.uk](http://www.scstrust.co.uk)



# How well are children placed outside your authority area doing in school?

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Based on very small cohorts of eligible children,(given in brackets) and using 2016 comparison data

- Match in Early Years (1 in Slough 1 out)
- Not applicable in Year 1 Phonics check (1 child only)
- Not applicable in Key Stage 1 (both children in Slough schools)
- Match in Key Stage 2 (4 in Slough 6 out)
- Exceed at GCSE (5 in Slough 12 out)





# What plans does the local authority have to raise attainment of CLA?

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Priorities for this academic year are:-

- Developing the whole Slough approach to wrap around support of CLA eg educational psychologists and YPS NEET team
- Development of the employment offer in line with the Employment Strategy and supporting aspiration
- Improvement in the quality of PEPs
- Development of offer to Post 16s
- Development of offer for birth to 5



[www.scstrust.co.uk](http://www.scstrust.co.uk)



# How effective is the Virtual School Head service and what impact has it had?

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- The Virtual School has moved from an overall judgement of inadequate to good
- Virtual School has the ambition to be outstanding before 2020
- Anecdotally Slough has the best results in the south east this year







# How do school admissions policies treat CLA? Are they able to attend the same school as other children in their foster family?

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- No difficulties in any school admissions within Slough, including managed moves.
- External to Slough only children with Education Health and Care Plans experience delay, but no resistance to a school place



# Do CLA have access to the best performing schools in the local authority?

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- Yes, all our outstanding schools have been highly inclusive
- However, only 2 children at grammar school. This year we are offering 11+ tuition from Year 4



# Do all CLA have a PEP? Have these plans been reviewed and audited?

PEPs are audited for their quality, comprehensiveness and effectiveness:-

- 96% of children had a PEP in the summer term
- Thematic audits and now all PEPs are RAG rated
- Improved quality of PEPs is a priority in this year's action plan (Significant improvement since September 2017).



# What do CLA themselves say about their education and aspirations?

---

- Their voice is in every good or better PEP. Quotations from these are in the Annual Report
- Coram Bright Spots survey found they liked school
- Some children are aspirational
- But not all. This is a focus for next year.



# How are young people supported into further and higher education?


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- Post 16 specialist on the team
- Taster visits to Universities
- Support for CV writing and UCAS applications
- PEPs held in colleges
- Year 11 career aspiration Project

# Are CLA able to participate in after-school activities and enjoy learning and achievement in all its forms? What are the barriers?

- Leisure activities are monitored by children being asked in PEPs. We use this to inform the gifted and talented register
- At the last audit children mentioned 26 different activities
- We have made a link to Slough Music Service
- We run activity days for all children under 11 in Easter and summer holidays
- Examples of achievements are given in the Annual Report
- Barrier is the tiredness of the youngest children when they also have contact visits with birth family





# Does your council have a way of celebrating CLA achievements and are councillors given regular updates?

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- Wonderful Annual Awards Evening Event
- Lead member for Children's Services is a Virtual School Governor
- Virtual School Head on Joint Parenting Panel where education is a scheduled item
- Education lead member attends Designated Teachers meetings



# Do you monitor the numbers of CLA that are excluded from school and do you know what support and alternative provision is available to them?

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- Attendance and exclusion monitored through daily calls to schools
- No permanent exclusions this year
- Fixed term exclusions have led to all cases being resolved, including re-integrations to mainstream schools
- Return to school after exclusion is supported by Virtual School
- Excellent relationships with a range of local alternative provision
- Improved results this year for those in alternative provision





# Questions



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**SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM**  
**6 March 2018**

**Directorate of Children Learning and Skills**

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**PFI Update Report**

**1 Purpose of Report**

1.1 There is an outstanding request from Schools' Forum to explain the origins of the charge of £183,889 to the HNB. This report provides that explanation and seeks Schools' Forum agreement on whether this should remain as a charge to the Delegated Schools Grant (DSG). It also clarifies the PFI factor and the Council's contribution towards this factor.

**1.2 Background**

1.2.1 In 2014-15 the High Needs Block (HNB) was introduced by the Government following a review of schools funding. The first budget for HNB was submitted to Schools' Forum and it included an item labelled "contribution to PFI" for £184k. Schools' Forum sought clarification about why this sum was introduced.

1.2.2 Over the years as the new annual budgets or annual outturn reports of the HNB were tabled at Schools' Forum the question of the £184k was raised again. Several attempts were made by Council officers over the years to explain this, however these explanations were not deemed satisfactory and no adequate explanation was given as there was a lack of clarity of what this supported at that time.

**2 The Introduction of the Charge to the HNB**

2.1 Between the start of the PFI and 2012/13, the Council contributed a sum broadly equal to the PFI factor of approximately £800k. In 2013/14 when the HNB was introduced this contribution was split between the Schools Block and the new HNB. The Council's contribution was shared £500k to the Schools Block and £309,542 to the HNB.

2.2 The effect of this change was that the Schools Block now had a net charge for the PFI of £297k. This being the PFI Factor less the Council's contribution of £500k.

2.3 At the same time the charge to the HNB of £183,889 was introduced. This amount has appeared in the HNB budget each year since and it

has been used to help pay for the Unitary Charge. The Council contributes £309,542 to the HNB which is the balance of its contribution for the PFI Factor.

- 2.4 Although the £184k charge was reported as part of the HNB budget initially in 2013/14 and again subsequently, it was not reported in a way that allowed proper scrutiny and discussion. There should have been a proper consultation with Schools' Forum about both the introduction of this charge and the decision to split the Council's contribution over both Blocks in the DSG. This was not done and the Council apologises for this omission and the delay in putting this right.

### **3. The Way Forward**

- 3.1 The Council is asking Schools Forum to agree that £183,889 remain as a charge to the HNB as a contribution of the cost of the PFI schemes.

This is proposed for the following reasons:

- a) It is appropriate for the HNB (DSG) to make a contribution to the cost PFI;
  - b) The Council already contributes £1.4m;
  - c) The inflation costs not related to Facilities Management are already the responsibility of the Council and under the current contract will remain this way for the next 19 years.
- 3.2 The Council is asking Schools Forum to agree that Council's contribution to PFI remains shared £500,000 to £309,542 between the Schools Block and the HNB. Moving the Council's contribution back to the Schools Block in full would increase the budget deficit on the HNB. This would confirm the School Block's contribution to the cost of PFI as £297k.
- 3.3 It is proposed that these decisions are agreed for 1 year. It is expected that in a year's time the decisions about the funding of PFI factors with the new National Funding Formula will be clearer. As will the budget position of the HNB.

### **4. RECCOMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 Schools' Forum agrees that;
- that £183,889 remains a charge to the HNB to contribute towards the cost of the Council PFI schemes,
  - the School Block's contribution to the cost of PFI is confirmed at £297k,

- the Council's contribution to the DSG to cover the PFI factor is remains shared between the Schools Block (£500,000) and the HNB (£309,542), and
- This decision is reviewed when the new budgets for the DSG are agreed next financial year.

## **5 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

5.1 No alternative options were considered.

## **6 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

6.1 Not applicable

## **7 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS**

### **7.1 Monitoring Officer**

The relevant legal provisions are contained within the main body of this report.

### **7.2 Section 151 Officer – Strategic Director of Resources**

The financial implications of the report are outlined in the supporting information.

### **7.3 Access Implications**

*There are no access implications.*

## **8 CONSULTATION**

*See paragraph 3*

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**SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM**  
**17<sup>th</sup> January 2018**  
**Directorate of Children Learning and Skills**

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**High Needs Block Budget (HNB) - 2018-19**

**1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To inform Schools' Forum of the latest agreed budget for the HNB for 2018/19 and estimated commitments against these resources. The report also seeks Schools' Forum agreement to the items to be centrally retained for 2018/19.

**2. AVAILABLE RESOURCES**

- 2.1 The budget as advised by the DfE for the High Needs Block for 2018/19 is **£22.724m**. This revised amount is after the transfer of **£0.968m** to the Schools Block to cover the transfer of the funding for SEN resource provisions and units in accordance with the changes to the National Schools Funding formula.
- 2.2 This means that for this year the High Needs Block would have been **£0.928m** better off if the transfer to SB wasn't made and this transfer means the HNB no longer has the funding nor responsibility for that element of unit funding; it has been transferred to the Schools Block.
- 2.3 The table below compares the budgets for the HNB for 2018/19 and 2017/18 allowing for the changes for Resource Bases. This shows that the **underlying** funding of the HNB for 2018/19 has increased by **£0.591m** after allowing for the changes due to the funding of resources bases.

Detail	£'m
2017-18 HNB Base	22.133
2018-19 HNB Base (Excluding transfer for Resource base funding of £0.928)	22.724
Increase	0.591

- 2.4 Schools' Forum members, on February 20<sup>th</sup> agreed to transfer **£0.824m** to the Schools Block and the Central Services Schools Block leaving a revised budget funded by the DfE of **£21.9m**.

Detail	£'m
2018-19 HNB Base	22.724
HNB Block adjustment	0.824
New Base HNB 18-19	21.900

- 2.4 With the addition of the Council's contribution towards the cost of the PFI schemes of £0.310m the total available funds in the HNB for 2018-19 is **£22.210m**

Detail	£'m
2018-19 HNB Base (DSG Funded)	21.900
Council Contribution for PFI	310
<b>Total HNB Resources 2018-19</b>	<b>22.210</b>

### 3. 2018/19 EXPENDITURE COMMITMENTS

- 3.1 The total estimated commitments within the HNB for 2018-19 are estimated at **£23.725m**.

- 3.2 The details of the commitments are shown in Appendix A. The key highlights are as follows:

- a) **Special Schools - Residential** – This will cost **£466k** less than last year as costs previously met by the DSG will now be met by the Social Care budgets.
- b) **Resource Bases Funding** – this will be lower than last year following the change to the National School Funding formula.
- c) **Out of Borough Placements** – These budgets have been adjusted to reflect the correct level of commitments in this area rather than the historic budget allocation.
- d) **Centrally Retained** – this will be less due to the removal of the Apollo Provision at Haybrook which is not required beyond 17/18.
- e) **PFI Contribution** – This is included in the list of commitments but is subject to the approval of SF that is sought in a separate report on the agenda.

#### 3.3 Centrally Retained Budgets

The Council's proposals for the budgets that it seeks to centrally retain are shown in detail in Appendix B. This is shown alongside the revised budgets recently discussed in detail by the High Needs Task Group and agreed by Schools' Forum in January 2018.

These need to be approved by Forum for the new financial year.

- 3.4 From 2018 to 2019, pre-16 place funding rates at SEN units and resourced provision in mainstream schools will change. The 2018 to 2019 school's budget share is determined on the basis of the total number of pupils on the roll of the school with sole and dual main



enrolment status, including those in resourced provision and special units, with no deduction made as in previous years.

Places occupied by pupils on the roll of the school at the time of the school census return are funded at £6,000 per place. The £6,000 funding rate for places occupied by these pupils reflects the per pupil funding that they attract through the schools formula. Where a place isn't occupied by a pupil who is recorded with sole or dual (main) enrolment status in the school census, the place rate is £10,000.

#### **4. BUDGET DEFICIT**

- 4.1 The total commitments of **£23.432m** compared to the revised available resources of **£22.310m** give an annual budget deficit of **£1.2m**. When the estimated overspend in the current financial year of **£4.68m**, is included, the HNB is expected to have a deficit at the end of the next financial year of **£5.88m**.
- 4.2 The £4.68m variance forecast for 17/18 is estimated based on our current understanding of the commitments. The final figure will not be known for certain until the accounts are closed in 2-3 months time. The report on the final outturn will be presented to Schools' Forum at the earliest opportunity after the final figures are known.

#### **5. PROPOSALS TO ADDRESS BUDGET DEFICIT**

- 5.1 Officers are currently conducting financial reviews on the whole High Needs Block with the aim of bringing the budget back in line as part of a three year plan and regular reports on progress will be brought to Schools Forum.

There are currently working groups established that are exploring:

- Better utilising the current existing provision that is within Slough
- Developing relationships with Slough's special schools to ensure that they are meeting the needs of the most complex learners within Slough
- The review of commissioned places within Resource Bases and Alternative Provision within Slough
- The review of provision for independent out of borough placements
- The review of the provision and expenditure of post 16 provision for Slough students

- The financial implications of Early Years Inclusion and Early Years top-up funding

## **6 RECOMMENDATIONS**

### 6.1 That Schools' Forum:

- notes the changes to the High Needs Block budget,
- notes the commitments against this budget and the budget deficits of **£1.2m** and **£5.8m** respectively,
- notes and comments on the Council's strategy for addressing the deficit;
- agrees the items proposed by the Council to be centrally retained (Appendix B).

## **7 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

7.1 The Council is required to present an annual budget to Schools' Forum for the HNB. It is also required to get specific approval for the centrally retained items.

## **8 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

8.1 Not applicable.

## **9 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS**

### 9.1 Monitoring Officer

The relevant legal provisions are contained within the main body of this report.

### 9.2 Section 151 Officer – Strategic Director of Resources

The financial implications of the report are outlined in the supporting information.

### 9.3 Access Implications

There are no access implications.

## **10 CONSULTATION**

10.1 The Council is required to consult with Schools' Forum on the contents of this report and specifically the Centrally Retained budgets. This report forms the basis of this consultation,

Contact for further information

George Grant

Head of Financial Management

George.grant@slough.gov.uk

**APPENDIX 1**

**High Needs Block Budget 2018/19**

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Estimated High Needs Block (Excluding Academies Deductions)	18,822,107	17,896,000	926,107
Academies Place funding	3,902,000	4,234,000	-332,000
Less Transfer to Other Blocks	-824,000		-824,000
<b>Sub Total DSG Funding</b>	<b>21,900,107</b>	22,130,000	-229,893
Council PFI Contribution	309,542	309,542	0
<b>Transfer from Schools Block (Agreed by Schools' Forum)</b>		300,000	-300,000
	<b>22,209,649</b>	22,739,542	-529,893
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
<b>SPECIAL SCHOOLS</b>			
Special Schools Places	2,810,000	2,560,000	250,000
Residential		466,569	-466,569
Council's Contribution to PFI	309,542	493,431	-183,889
HNB Contribution to PFI *	183,890	0	183,890
Special School Top up	3,555,000	3,290,000	265,000
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>6,858,432</b>	<b>6,810,000</b>	<b>48,432</b>
<b>Academy Special School Top ups</b>			
Haybrook	1,127,000	1,259,000	-132,000
Littledown	715,000	880,000	-165,000
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>1,842,000</b>	<b>2,139,000</b>	<b>-297,000</b>
<b>PRU top ups</b>			
Haybrook College PRU Top Up	490,000	490,000	0
Littledown School PRU Top Up	169,000	169,000	0
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>659,000</b>	<b>659,000</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>RESOURCE AND SPECIAL UNITS</b>			
<b>Place funding +</b>			
Resource Bases Places Early Years	120,000	200,000	-80,000
Resource Bases Places Mainstream Primary	426,000	560,000	-134,000
Resource Bases Places Mainstream Secondary	0	180,000	-180,000
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>546,000</b>	<b>940,000</b>	<b>-394,000</b>

<b>Resource Base top up</b>			
Resource Bases Top Up Early Years	54,000	194,000	-140,000
Resource Bases Top Up Maintained Primary	625,000	688,000	-63,000
Resource Bases Top Up Maintained Secondary	163,000	239,000	-76,000
Resource Bases Top Up Academies Primary	954,000	1,015,000	-61,000
Resource Bases Top Up Academies Secondary	371,000	387,000	-16,000
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>2,167,000</b>	<b>2,523,000</b>	<b>-356,000</b>
<b>MAINSTREAM</b>			
<b>Maintained top up</b>			
Slough children's Centre top ups	16,000		16,000
Mainstream Pupils with Statements Top-up Nursery	65,000	36,000	29,000
Mainstream Pupils with Statements Top-up Primary	371,000	402,000	-31,000
Mainstream Pupils with Statements Top-up Secondary	46,000	100,000	-54,000
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>498,000</b>	<b>538,000</b>	<b>-40,000</b>
<b>Academy top up</b>			
Mainstream Pupils with Statements Top-up Primary	1,015,000	654,000	361,000
Mainstream Pupils with Statements Top-up Secondary	456,000	556,000	-100,000
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>1,471,000</b>	<b>1,210,000</b>	<b>261,000</b>
<b>OUT OF BOROUGH PLACEMENTS</b>			
Independent Special Schools	1,506,491	800,000	706,491
HNB Out-borough placements Special	600,000	409,750	190,250
HNB Out-borough placements Mainstream	130,000	127,890	2,110
PVI EY top ups (new cost centre requested 18.10.17)	200,000	115,310	84,690
Post 16 top up	600,000	132,236	467,764
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>3,036,491</b>	<b>1,585,186</b>	<b>1,451,305</b>
<b>Centrally Retained (see details on Appendix B)</b>	2,302,420	2,433,415	-130,995
<b>Academy Recoupment</b>	3,902,000	4,234,000	-332,000
Contribution to Council's Corporate Overheads (Non Controllable)	149,491	149,491	0
<b>TOTAL HIGH NEEDS BLOCK EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>23,431,834</b>	<b>23,221,092</b>	<b>210,742</b>
<b>ESTIMATED ANNUAL SHORTFALL</b>	<b>1,222,185</b>	<b>481,550</b>	740,635
Add Carry Forward	4,618,996	1,468,700	3,150,296
<b>TOTAL SHORTFALL</b>	<b>5,841,181</b>	<b>1,950,250</b>	<b>3,890,931</b>

\* subject to agreement by agreed by SF

+ This is after allowing for reduction of £4k place funding now moved to the Schools Block

**APPENDIX B**  
**HIGH NEEDS BLOCK**  
**CENTRALLY RETAINED BUDGETS 2018-19**

<b>DETAILS</b>	<b>Agreed Funding 2107-18</b>	<b>Realigned Budget 21017-18</b>	<b>Proposed Budget 2018-19</b>	<b>Change</b>
Primary Provision Behaviour	164,280	164,280	164,280	0
SEN - Assessment Capacity	182,000	182,000	182,000	0
Early Years Inclusion	70,000	70,000	70,000	0
Hard to Place Pupils	267,000	267,000	267,000	0
Exclusions and Access to Education	0	31,700	31,700	0
Home Education	42,600	42,600	42,600	0
0-5 SEN Transport	46,340	46,340	46,340	0
Vulnerable Children Management Incl.	61,700	30,000	30,000	0
Autism Outreach Team	185,730	185,730	185,730	0
EY SEN Advisory Teachers/support Workers EY Settings	181,300	118,100	118,100	0
EY SEN Advisory Teachers/Support Workers in Children's Centres	0	63,000	63,000	0
SENCO Network	0	100,000	100,000	0
SEND Teacher Advisor	218,000	118,200	118,200	0
Sensory Impairment	0	470,000	470,000	0
SALT	721,770	251,770	251,770	0
Education Resource Services (Formerly LACES)	106,700	106,700	106,700	0
Haybrook Provision	130,990	130,990	0	-130,990
SEND Financial Support	55,000	55,000	55,000	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,433,410</b>	<b>2,433,410</b>	<b>2,302,420</b>	<b>-130,990</b>

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**SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM 2017/18  
FORWARD AGENDA PLAN**

<b>Meeting 5: Tuesday 6 March 2018</b>		
<b>No.</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>LEAD</b>
1.	Update on national/local funding issues (verbal)	Nic Barani/ Susan Woodland
2.	Confirmation of Indicative Budgets 2018/19 & Correction of Baseline	Nic Barani
3.	2018/19 Early Years Block (verbal)	Michael Jarrett
4.	Virtual School Headteacher's update	Anne Bunce
5.	PFI update report	George Grant
6.	High Needs Block Budget 2018/19	Vikram Hansrani
7.	Update from Task Groups: 5-16, High Needs Block and Early Years (verbal)	Maggie Waller
8.	Academies Update	
9.	2017/18 Forward Agenda Plan and Key Decisions Log	Maggie Waller
10.	Any Other Business	Maggie Waller

**Meeting 6: Wednesday 16 May 2018**

<b>No.</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>LEAD</b>
1.	Update on national/local funding issues	Nic Barani
2.	Update on Closure of Accounts including indicative outturns	Nic Barani
3.	Update from Task Groups: 5-16, High Needs Block and Early Years (verbal)	Maggie Waller
4.	Update from Schools Improvement and centrally retained areas	Cate Duffy/ Johnny Kyriacou
5.	Schools Forum Membership	Maggie Waller
6.	Academies update	
7.	2017/18 Forward Agenda Plan and Key Decisions Log	Maggie Waller

**Meeting 7: Thursday 5 July 2018**

<b>No.</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>LEAD</b>
1.	Update on national/local funding issues	Nic Barani
2.	Growth Allocations and Issues update	Tony Madden
3.	Centrally Retained outturn reports 2017/18 (High Needs, Early Years and Schools Block)	Nic Barani
4.	Review of the Scheme for Financing Schools 2017/18	Nic Barani
5.	Update from Task Groups: 5-16, High Needs Block and Early Years (verbal)	Maggie Waller
6.	Special Report on Early Years 30 hour provision: how it has worked to date	
7.	Impact and Quality Assurance of Centrally Retained Budgets	
8.	Election of Chair and Vice Chair	
9.	Academies update	
10.	2018/19 Forward Agenda Plan and Key Decisions Log	Maggie Waller





**Schools Forum Key Decisions Log September 2016 and ongoing**

<b>Issue and Decision</b>	<b>Schools Forum date</b>	<b>Schools Forum agenda item no.</b>	<b>School Forum Minute</b>
<b>Membership Update</b>			
Kathleen Higgins attending as an observer now that Beechwood is an academy	13/10/2016	4	511
<b>PFI Proposal</b>			
Clarification of factor and SBC contribution to affordability gap deferred to December	13/10/2016	5	510
<b>High Needs Block</b>			
Significant pressure on High Needs Block with overspend in range of 800k. Range of recovery options being considered by SBC	13/10/2016	7	514
<b>PFI Update</b>			
£500k PFI contribution raised by the new finance officer (section 151). It was flagged up that the council may need to make a further request for contribution from the DSG. Other savings will be explored across the council but if a further request is made a full consultation will be employed with schools.	06/12/2016	5	524
<b>High Needs Block</b>			
Overspend has been reduced to £300k at the current time. Figure can still fluctuate. Detailed recovery plan will be drafted.	06/12/2016	6	525
<b>Centrally Retained</b>			
Recommendation agreed to retain £723,598	06/12/2016	7	526
<b>Education Support Grant</b>			
School improvement and statutory services noted and Schools Forum agreed the transfer of the £430k from ESG to centrally retained. Total supported functions amount to £1.036 million. Includes bridging post between STSA and SBC	06/12/2016	8	527
<b>De-delegated items</b>			
Behaviour Support Services (SEBDOS) approved but 5k for trade union activity NOT approved	06/12/2016	10	529
<b>Growth Fund 2017-18</b>			
£900k centrally retained support for primary and secondary 2017/18 approved.	06/12/2016	11	530
<b>Matters arising</b>			
SBC will not seek any portion of 500k PFI affordability gap for 2017/18. May present new proposals for 2018-19 following full consultation.	10/01/2017	2	537
<b>ESG de-delegation</b>			
45k ESG de-delegation paper approved by maintained schools.	10/01/2017	3	538
<b>Schools Block Budget</b>			
SBC consulted on requesting one-off 300k top slice from High Needs Block. Slough losing money overall as a result of change to National Funding Formula. Schools Forum encourages all schools to respond to Phase 2 of the DfE NFF consultation which closes 22nd March and will share response from Schools Forum once complete at March meeting.	10/01/2017	4 and 5	539
<b>Forum membership</b>			
Updated membership in light of academy conversions meant deleting two vacancies from maintained schools and need to recruit two new academy members.	10/01/2017	9	544
<b>National Fair Funding Update</b>			
DfE Stage 2 consultation: schools were encouraged to make individual responses (deadline 22nd March) in addition to collective Schools Forum response. <a href="https://consult.education.gov.uk/funding-policy-unit/schools-national-funding-formula2/">https://consult.education.gov.uk/funding-policy-unit/schools-national-funding-formula2/</a>	09/02/2017	4	550
<b>Growth Fund 2017-18</b>			
2017-18 Growth Fund criteria agreed. Unit values were previously in line with 2015-16 AWPU values, but 2017-18 AWPU rates will now be used, with average of KS3 and KS4 for secondary. Agreed to fund numbers in bulge classes which open / fill after October census subject to costing and noted that Growth Fund criteria have to be confirmed by Schools Forum every year.	09/02/2017	6	552
<b>High Needs Block</b>			
Schools Forum consulted on draft High Needs Block and some outstanding clarifications pending. .	09/02/2017	7	553
<b>Matters Arising</b>			

**Schools Forum Key Decisions Log September 2016 and ongoing**

A firm commitment was made by the LA to bring a detailed report to the October Schools Forum meeting to explain all PFI identified within the DSG, particularly relating to the Council's contribution and to the High Needs Block.	06/07/2017	3	562
<b>Review of Scheme for Financing Schools</b>			
A review will be completed over summer with consultation (maintained schools only) in September and proposals for any amendments to come to Schools Forum in October.	06/07/2017	4	563
<b>Early Years Funding Formula</b>			
The hourly rates for 2 year olds, and for 3 and 4 year olds have been implemented following consultation; consultation will be carried out with regard to 2018/19 formula; required to move to full implementation of universal base rate for 3 and 4 year olds by April 2019.	06/07/2017	6	565
<b>Membership</b>			
Vacancies in academy membership and extensions of terms of office of a number of members to be progressed with relevant groups: academy proprietors and Chairs of Governors as appropriate.	06/07/2017	7	566
<b>High Needs Block Centrally Retained</b>			
Centrally retained budget of £2.4 million: work in progress with savings of £100k identified to date; further review over the summer and detailed breakdown will be provided for October Schools Forum including all references to PFI in High Needs Block.	06/07/2017	8	567
<b>High Needs Group Terms of Reference</b>			
Terms of Reference for High Needs Group were endorsed.	06/07/2017	9	568
<b>Membership</b>			
The membership of a number of members of Schools Forum was confirmed for a further term of office to July 2019 following consultation with academies and maintained schools: Maggie Waller, Navroop Mehat, Carol Pearce and Angela Mellish (maintained) and Helen Huntley, Gillian Coffey, Nicky Willis, Jo Rockall and John Constable (academies). Three academy vacancies: Kathleen Higgins and Valerie Harffey proposals have been agreed; one further nomination had been made: Peter Collins and this will be followed up.	10/10/2017	2	575
<b>Chair and Vice Chair</b>			
Election of Maggie Waller as Chair and John Constable as Vice Chair confirmed to June 2018	10/10/2017	2	575
<b>Schools' DSG Out-Turn 2016/17</b>			
Report noted with the 13 maintained schools carry forward balances.	10/10/2017	5	578
<b>Early Years Funding</b>			
Report noted and EY Task Group to meet as part of the development of the 2018-19 budget.	10/10/2017	6	579
<b>High Needs Block</b>			
Report noted including 2016/17 overspend in High Needs Block on £1,468,700. Aim is to balance the spend over two years and work is ongoing with further detail and clarification to be covered in High Needs Block group due to meet in October.	10/10/2017	7	580
<b>National Funding Formula</b>			
Update provided and Task Group to meet to look at modelling for 2018/19 transition to NFF.	10/10/2017	10	583
<b>Langley Hall Primary Academy: Exceptional Premises Factor Request</b>			
A request from Langley Hall Primary Academy for the creation of an exceptional premises factor to support payment of a school buildings lease was referred to all schools for full and detailed consultation. Following the consultation, as proposed in the report, Schools Forum will make the final decision about the factor, taking account of the results of the consultation.	10/10/2017	11	584
<b>Scheme for Financing Schools</b>			
Consultation with maintained schools to take place on changes to the Scheme for Financing Schools. Changes are to bring Scheme in line with DfE current guidance.	10/10/2017	12	585
<b>School Improvement and Education Services Grant 2017/18</b>			
Report corrected inaccuracies from December 2016 reports and re-profiled the ESG elements correctly. Implication is that funding of School Improvement supported by Schools Forum could be reduced for 2018/19.	10/10/2017	13	586
<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting</b>			
John Constable would write to academy proprietors requesting approval of the appointment of Peter Collins	09/11/2017	3	593
Clerk to draft letter to members who did not attend Schools Forum meetings regularly			
John Voytal to circulate table of Scheme for Financing Schools			
<b>Schools National Funding Formula 2018/19</b>			
NFF models to be submitted to 5-16 Task Group prior to consultation with schools	09/11/2017	5	595

## Schools Forum Key Decisions Log September 2016 and ongoing

<b>Schools Forum Constitution Update</b>			
Slough Schools Forum Guidance update to be taken to full Council	09/11/2017	7	597
<b>Matters Arising</b>			
Noted closing date for election process for academy member noted: Friday 8 December 2017	06/12/2017	2	602
<b>Formula Changes for 2018/19</b>			
3 options presented at meeting, consultation to be sent to schools, agreed to extend closing date for responses to 9 January 2018.	06/12/2017	4	604
<b>Scheme for Financing Schools</b>			
Reported no issues following consultation. Consultation with maintained schools completed. Maintained schools' members of Forum approved the revised scheme.	06/12/2017	6	606
<b>Report on Resources Base Task Group Proposal/High Needs Commissioning Places</b>			
Review of bandings to be carried out and separate Task Group to be formed to focus on Resource Bases. High Needs Commissioned places summary presented and increase to places noted. List of applicable schools to be reviewed.	06/12/2017	8 and 9	608/609
<b>High Needs Centrally Retained Clarification (budget codes and descriptors/Centrally Retained Budgets 2017-18)</b>			
Updated centrally retained budget information presented with updated descriptors following meetings of High Needs Task Group; proportion of budget spent to date to be presented at next meeting of Schools Forum with further information.	06/12/2017	10 and 11	610/611
<b>Matters Arising</b>			
Peter Collins agreed as member of Schools Forum, representing academy schools.	17/01/2018	3	617
<b>2017/18 DSG Monitoring Report</b>			
Schools Forum noted DSG projected overspend of £3.4M across all three blocks – Schools, Early Years and High Needs with projected £4.1m cumulative overspend in High Needs Block.	17/01/2018	4	618
<b>Funding Formula Changes 2018/19</b>			
Consultation with schools closed, 41% response, majority in favour of Option 2. £165k additional funding available following transfer into CSSB agreed under agenda item 6; Forum endorsed SB Task Group recommendation to allocate this funding in proportion across the factors in the formula.	17/01/2018	5	619
<b>Central Services Schools Block (CSSB)</b>			
Forum approved transfer of £124,000 for licences and £52,000 for historical items to CSSB from Schools Block, to cover partial shortfall in DfE funding. Updated report subsequently posted on SBC website following meeting	17/01/2018	6	620
<b>Early Years</b>			
Forum noted EY Task Group recommendations regarding implementation of EYNFF for 2018-19	17/01/2018	7	621
<b>Growth Fund 2017-18</b>			
Forum approved approximately £90,000 from 2017/18 underspend to part-fund Grove Academy 'ghost places' places.			
Forum agreed Growth Fund criteria for 2018/19, with AWPU rates based on 2018-19 formula.	17/01/2018	8	622
<b>De-delegation Report</b>			
Maintained school members agreed de-delegation for SEBDOS Behaviour Support Service, subject to revised unit costs, to reflect rates for primary and secondary as agreed in December 2015.	17/01/2018	9	623
<b>2017-18 Forward Agenda Plan and Key Decision Log</b>			
Forum agreed appointment of Chair and Vice Chair to be held at July 2018 meeting, prior to first meeting in the 2018-19 academic year.	17/01/2018	12	626

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