

SLOUGH SCHOOLS FORUM

SCHOOLS GROUP:

John Constable (Chair), Peter Collins, Philip Gregory, Valerie Harffey, Kathleen Higgins, Navroop Mehat, Angela Mellish, Eddie Neighbour, Carol Pearce, Kathy Perry, Jon Reekie, Jo Rockall, Jamie Rockman, Coral Snowden, Neil Sykes, Maggie Waller, Nicky Willis and Maxine Wood

LOCAL AUTHORITY:

Catherine Cochran, Eleni Ioannides, Michael Jarrett, Johnny Kyriacou, Tony Madden and Susan Woodland

DATE & TIME: THURSDAY, 13TH MAY, 2021 AT 9.00 AM
VIRTUAL MEETING

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86015818245?pwd=NzZtNzk5eVh3VFpnd0hQenhHUngRQT09>

Meeting ID: 860 1581 8245

Passcode: 683711

AGENDA

Page

Apologies

1. Any Other Business
2. Declarations of Interest

The Chair will ask Members to confirm whether they have any declarable interests in relation to any item on the agenda.

All Members who believe they may have such an interest must declare it and may only:

- (a) remain in the meeting while that matter is discussed at the discretion of the Chair or Vice Chair, and*
- (b) speak on the matter by invitation.*

Examples of declarable interests include: where the outcome of a discussion may provide a personal advantage or avoid disadvantage (pecuniary or non-pecuniary), or where the focus of an agenda item and the likely impact of any outcome is wholly or mainly on a school with which the Member is associated.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 24 March 2021 **(Pages 1 - 6)**
4. Schools Forum Membership update
5. Update on National/Local Funding issues
6. Growth Fund: financial year-end position **(Pages 7 - 18)**
7. SEND update
8. DSG Management Plan update
9. Maintained Nursery School funding **(Pages 19 - 22)**
10. Update from Task Groups: Early Years, HNB and 5-16
11. Academies update
12. 2020/21 Proposed Forward Agenda Plan/Key Decision Log **(Pages 23 - 30)**
13. Any Other Business

Slough Schools Forum- Meeting held on Wednesday, 24th March, 2021

Present: John Constable, Langley Grammar School (Chair)
Peter Collins, Slough & Eton Church of England Business and Enterprise College
Philip Gregory, Baylis Court Nursery School
Valerie Harffey, Ryvers School
Navroop Mehat, Wexham Court Primary School
Angela Mellish, St Bernard's Catholic Grammar School
Eddie Neighbour, Upton Court Grammar School (Observer)
Carol Pearce, Penn Wood Primary School
Jon Reekie, Phoenix Infants
Jo Rockall, Herschel Grammar School
Maggie Waller, Holy Family Primary School
Jamie Rockman, Haybrook College
Neil Sykes, Arbourvale School

Officers: Catherine Cochran, Michael Jarrett and Susan Woodland

Apologies: Kathy Perry and Nicky Willis

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologised for the change in meeting date: the link to remote meetings of Schools Forum could be found on the corresponding agenda paper posted on the SBC website.

Attendees were reminded of the remote meeting protocol. It was noted the meeting would be recorded and an assurance was given that the recording would be deleted upon the production of accurate minutes.

Apologies:

Apologies for absence had been received from Kathy Perry and Nicky Willis. No apologies for absence had been received prior to the meeting from Kathleen Higgins, Coral Snowden or Maxine Wood.

It was noted that Michael Jarrett would be joining the meeting at 9.30am.

822. Any Other Business

Nothing was tabled.

823. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

824. Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 19 January 2021

The Minutes of the Schools Forum meeting held on 19 January 2021 were agreed as a correct record.

Matters Arising from those Minutes: there were none.

825. Schools Forum Membership update

The Clerk reported there had been no response to the proposed secondary academy representative nominee put forward by SASH. Lack of response was taken to indicate

approval, and as a result, Eddie Neighbour was appointed as an Academy representative unopposed for a 2-year term.

826. National/Local Funding issues update

Susan Woodland explained there was little change to report since the last meeting of Schools Forum. Current consultations were drawn to the attention of members:

School Business Rates (consultation closes 5 May): removing the administrative role allowing funding to be paid directly from government to schools. Members hoped the LA would support this proposal as it would be beneficial to the majority of schools.

High Needs Special funding formula, although there would be a SEND review consultation conducted later in the year. This was about how government funded LAs and was based on historical spend and currently based on forecasts for 2017/18 spend with a view to adding actuals. If this were to go ahead it was anticipated SBC would gain by about 8% and receive approximately £11.5m. There had been a great deal of discussion about using a later year in order to be more accurate but actual spend was being reviewed due to projected spend. It was not anticipated changes would be made until the SEND consultation had been completed: it was added that the introduction of a sparsity factor would not affect Slough schools.

The Workforce Fund for Schools form was available and had to be submitted by 31 March 2021. There were a number of prerequisites attached and Schools could not claim if they had in-year surpluses of more than 4% of revenue funding.

In answer to a question, it was confirmed that although the Teachers' Pay and Pension grant would now be incorporated in the AWPU amount, alternative providers, special schools and early years providers would continue to receive a separate grant.

827. Confirmation of Schools Budgets 2021/22

An update on school budget allocations for 2021/22 had been made available to members prior to the meeting. It was explained that the APT had been predicated on the submission made to the DfE and agreed by full Cabinet on 22 February 2021.

It was confirmed that the budget information circulated was the final version and maintained schools had been notified of their budget allocations before the required date of 28 February 2021.

828. Update on Centrally Retained Items: all blocks 2021/22

It was confirmed that Early Years had previously been agreed by the Task Group (to be covered under minute number 10 on the agenda).

The High Needs centrally retained element was known but there had been insufficient time to produce a report for this meeting. This work had been completed by Johnny Kyriacou (Associate Director, Education & Inclusion) and was deferred to the next meeting of Schools Forum. There was only a need for LA to inform Schools Forum, so no decisions were required.

There had been no changes to the CSSB and there was nothing further to report on centrally retained items.

It was explained that the academy recruitment figures had not yet been received: Susan Woodland would update Schools Forum on these for 2021/22 when the detail became available.

829. DSG Management Plan update

It was agreed that agenda item number 9 would also be taken under this item.

Mark McCurrie explained that the DSG Management Plan (the Plan) was being formulated for the end of year in order that the Plan contained 2020/21 figures to support the roll forward forecast figures for future years. The EHCP figures had been based on the previous SEND2 return.

A significant number of areas within the Plan were under review and being closely scrutinised by the LA. Johnny Kyriacou had updated a number of Forum meetings on the progress of the Plan.

It was explained that the funding mechanism for special schools and the SEND banding matrix required further review as there were still some discrepancies between scores agreed by panels and those expected by schools. The banding matrix remained under consideration to ensure it was fit for purpose. Review of the matrix would incorporate alternative provision and also linked to the Resource Base review work.

There was also a great deal of work underway on therapy services which would impact on the centrally retained budget.

The Plan had to be presented to Schools Forum for scrutiny at least once a term and, to meet this requirement, it would be an agenda item in the summer term: it was felt the earlier meeting scheduled for May would still be useful although if the Plan were made available in July it would be more up to date. It was agreed to include the Plan on the agenda for both meetings.

It was noted this would be Mark McCurrie's last meeting and that changes of personnel within the LA's SEN department were ongoing.

On behalf of Schools Forum the Chair thanked Mark McCurrie for all his work over the past months, adding that members were aware that a great deal of work had been put into developing the Plan.

Schools Forum wished to share that there were some concerns about who would lead on updating the Plan in future. It was explained that Johnny Kyriacou would be taking ownership of the service, bringing SEN and Inclusion into the service and that Johnny Kyriacou was dedicated to moving the service forward on behalf of the LA and children in Slough.

830. SEND Quarterly update

This item had been covered under the previous item.

A member explained they were aware of an error made by the LA on the place top-up funding received by schools with attached resource bases: the top up received was £10,000 rather than £6,000 and it was requested that schools concerned should be made aware of this as soon as possible. On behalf of the LA it was acknowledged this affected academy schools and linked to "filled and 'unfilled' places on the LA's return. Communication had been made with the ESFA, who had advised an adjustment to the top up regarding the £4,000 variation. The ESFA's response would be reviewed to establish how this would be managed and all schools concerned would be advised.

9.30am: Michael Jarrett was admitted to the meeting

The member concerned explained they had contacted the ESFA and understood the LA had to amend the error and revised budget shares would be issued. It was noted the LA

had put this to the ESFA as a suggestion as it would be a preferred option to manage the situation.

It was agreed a workable solution was required and it was requested that an update be given to Schools Forum at their next meeting.

831. Update from Task Groups: Early Years, HNB and 5-16

The Chair welcomed Michael Jarrett who explained there was positive news to report concerning the Early Years Funding Formula and increases for 2-year old provision and 3 and 4 year old entitlement across universal and extended services at £0.06p. The Early Years Task Group had met to consider four options which had been reduced to two. The two options had been put to the sector and approximately 60 responses had been received from providers, more than the previous year.

Option 1 was the option favoured for 3 and 4 year old funding, including the same amounts for deprivation at £0.72p and Early Years Pupil Premium at £0.53p. The SEN inclusion grant had been reduced from £50,000 to £40,000. The budget balanced, and available grants had been maximised: it was noted that in this area Slough was the highest funded LA in the South East and providers were receiving the best funding. It was hoped this would support the sustainability of the sector as a number of providers had expressed concerns. Michael Jarrett confirmed he maintained regular contact with the DfE who were yet to confirm a number of outstanding issues.

Schools Forum **NOTED** the conclusions in the report and **AGREED** the recommendation of Task Group for the introduction of Option 1. Michael Jarrett would advise providers accordingly, and Option 1 would come into effect from Thursday 1 April 2021.

On a further issue, Michael Jarrett confirmed he was meeting with, and working with local nurseries regarding the uncertainty attached to Maintained Nursery Schools (MNS) supplements. Funding was in place until the end of September 2021 but no commitment had been made about the period 1 October 2021 to 31 March 2022. This was a national issue for the sector and Michael Jarrett explained he was in regular contact with the DfE raising local concerns. However, the financial pressures could lead to a need to consider options and the future of MNS and EYS in order to balance budgets. The LA was aware, as were Schools Forum.

Phil Gregory, nursery headteacher representative was invited to comment and he thanked Michael Jarrett for his support. It was confirmed this was a serious issue for the sector, making it difficult to plan ahead and causing a great deal of anxiety. It was noted that Schools Forum had written previously to the DfE on this issue, and it was agreed the support of Schools Forum would again be appreciated. The Chair agreed to draft a letter of concern to the DfE, on behalf of Schools Forum, in consultation with Michael Jarrett and Phil Gregory.

Members felt the continuing uncertainty of this issue and the use of repeated short-term arrangements was unsatisfactory. It was confirmed that LA Members were aware of the financial pressures and local officers would continue to raise it with them.

On behalf of Penn Wood Michael Jarrett was thanked for his support. The attention of Schools Forum was drawn to the fact that schools with nursery classes were also experiencing funding issues: due to a drop in numbers during the lockdowns, numbers had dropped. Numbers were now rising with no funding available. Michael Jarrett acknowledged this was due to funding 'following the child' but it was hoped government would make an adjustment to support the stability of increased numbers. However, such confirmation was yet to be received.

There had been no meetings of the HNB or 5-16 Task Groups.

832. Academies update

The conversion of Khalsa Primary School to multi-academy trust status had taken effect from 1 February 2021.

833. 2020/21 Proposed Forward Agenda Plan/Key Decisions Log

The Forward Agenda Plan 2020/21 and Key Decisions Log were noted.

It was noted the Schools Forum meetings for the remainder of the academic year were currently scheduled to be held on:

Thursday 13 May 2021

Tuesday 6 July 2021

It was intended that both meetings should go ahead and it was suggested these would be held virtually. Members would be advised of any changes to these arrangements.

834. Any Other Business

Nothing had been tabled.

The Chair thanked everyone for their time and contributions.

(Note: The Meeting opened at 9.00 am and closed at 9.55 am)

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SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM
13th May 2021

Growth Fund 2020-21 and 2021-22
Directorate of People (Children)

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Schools' Forum with the outturn of the Growth Fund for 2020-21 and provide details of the projected outturn for 2021-22.
- 1.2 To introduce an alternative method for presenting and distributing April to August funding to academies.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Schools' Forum:

- 2.1 Note that April to August commitments to Academies are presented in a new way and are now shown as commitments against the 'top slice'.
- 2.2 Note the outturn for 2020-21 in Appendix B and agree the updated allocations of Growth Funding for 2021-22 as shown in Appendix C.
- 2.3 Note that a higher top slice is required for 2022-23 (the catch-up year) in order that academies can be paid for the full year at the start of the academic year with the extra funding being recouped from the DfE.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The birth rate for Slough rose by 48% over the 9 year period from 2006-7 to 2015-16. More than half of existing primary schools expanded over this period and a number of new schools opened. Birth numbers have reduced since the peak in 2011-12. Inward migration to Slough has slowed recently but continues to affect in-year admissions. Bulge classes and larger classes are the main solution where local shortages emerge.
- 3.2 The population growth has been impacting secondary schools for some years and 3 new secondary schools and an all-through have opened in recent years. In addition 2 non-selective schools plus one grammar school have undergone expansion funded by the LA. Slough's other three grammar schools have all increased their PANs without capital funding from SBC.
- 3.3 The prescribed methodology for calculating revenue funding for expanding schools means that there is a 'lag' in the period from pupils starting until they appear on the School Census and funding is allocated.

To support schools through this period of lag in funding while they are expanding the LA requests a sum of money through Schools' Forum called the "Growth Fund".

- 3.4 The methodology for qualification and allocation of the Growth Fund is reviewed and agreed by Schools' Forum on an annual basis. Schools' Forum is asked to consider the financial impact on schools of expansion and agree an affordable level of additional revenue support. Schools' Forum agreed the methodology to be applied in 2021-22 at a meeting in January 2021 and Appendix C is based on the agreed criteria. No variations to criteria applied in 2020-21 were put forward or agreed.

4 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 The Growth Fund is one of the centrally held budget areas that Schools' Forum has decision making powers over. Guidance on how the Growth Fund should be approved and allocated can be found in *Schools Revenue Funding 2021 to 2022 – Operational Guide* (December 2020). Paragraph 247 states:

"The growth fund can only be used to:

- *support growth in pre-16 pupil numbers to meet basic need*
- *support additional classes needed to meet the infant class size regulation.*
- *meet the costs of new schools*

Paragraph 249 states: *The cost of new schools...will also include post-start-up and diseconomy costs...where they are created to meet basic need.*

Level of Funding – Age Weighted Pupil Unit (AWPU)

- 4.2 The agreed methodology for distributing funding is based on an AWPU per pupil, reflecting the proportion of the year which is not funded within the school's budget share.

Summary of Criteria Agreed for 2020-21 and 2021-22

- **Bulge Classes** - These must be requested and agreed in advance by the LA. Schools receive funding as though the class was full from the date of opening until March the following year and academies receive funding until August. Academies also receive a one-off payment in the second year of bulge classes to reflect a lag in funding beyond the first year.
- **Expansion by a Form of Entry** - The Growth Fund provides financial support for all the years a school incurs a shortfall in funding whilst going through a permanent expansion.

- **Larger Classes or Numbers in Excess of PAN** - The Growth Fund will provide financial support for schools that admit pupils in excess of their PAN for each whole term that they make each additional place available at the request of the Local Authority.
- **New Schools** - Support for Grove Academy has been agreed on an ad-hoc basis in recent years but this is not required for 2021-22.

Financial Outturn 2020-21

- 4.3 The outturn for 2020-21 is shown in Appendix B. The unspent funding to be carried forward is £65.4K. This is considerably less than the figure reported to Schools' Forum in January 2021 as the April to August 2020 commitment for academies shown in Appendix A (the 2019-20 outturn summary) is charged to this year's Growth Fund. The reason for this is explained below.

April to August Payments to Academies

- 4.4 Previous Growth Funding reports to Schools' Forum have treated the April to August payments to academies separately as the funding is recouped from the DfE. The previous methodology was used for many years in Slough but this is not in line with current best practice. Academies should receive 12 months worth of growth funding within the financial year the changes take place.
- 4.5 Although this means extra costs appear to be recorded against the Growth Fund, the reality is that the recouped funding is first added to the DSG then top sliced. The net result to the DSG is almost unchanged.
- 4.6 There is one difference, as the Growth Fund will fund April to August payments 7 month's earlier than at present. The reason for changing is to get rid of the lag in funding for Academies growth fund. Payments for both elements of an academy's growth fund will now be paid at the same time in September.
- 4.7 As there is no desire to change the recorded top slice for 2021-22 at this point the transition year will be 2022-23. The top slice for 2022-23, the catch-up year, is estimated at £1.1m. This could be higher if an academy bulge class opens in 2021-22 and if AWPU rates rise.

5 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

- 5.1 Local Authorities are under a statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places in their area, ensure fair access to educational opportunity and promote the fulfilment of every child's educational potential.

Section 151 Officer – Strategic Director of Resources

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

Access Implications

- 5.3 There are no access implications.

6 CONSULTATION

Principal Groups Consulted

Slough Education Partnership Board, SASH and SPHA are consulted on the wider expansion policy of the council on a regular basis.

Method of Consultation

Representations Received

Background Papers

None

Contact for further information

Tony Madden (Principal Asset Manager)
(01753 875739)
tony.madden@slough.gov.uk

Susan Woodland (Interim Principal Accountant, ECS)
(01753 690709)
Susan.Woodland@slough.gov.uk

**2019-20 Final Growth Fund Allocations (£)
Outturn**

Appendix A

Date: Jul 2020 and amended May 2021

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Primary AWPU (2019-20) | 3,348.41 |
| Pupils per Class | 30 |
| Full Year Growth Funding Per Class | 100,452.30 |
| All schools (Sep 19 - Mar 20) | 58,597.18 |
| Academies (Apr 20 - Aug 20) | 41,855.13 |

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Secondary AWPU (2019-20 average) | 4,481.18 |
| KS3 | 4,254.20 |
| KS4 | 4,708.15 |
| Pupils per Class | 30 |
| Full Year Growth Funding Per Class | 134,435.25 |
| All schools (Sep 19 - Mar 20) | 78,420.56 |
| Academies (Apr 20 - Aug 20) | 56,014.69 |

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| 2019-20 BUDGET (excluding funding claimed from the ESFA for academies) | |
| CARRY FORWARD 2018-19 (agreed by School's Finance) | 203,301 |
| TOP SLICE FROM 2019-20 SCHOOL BLOCK (agreed by Schools' Forum) | 800,000 reduced from £900K |
| TOTAL BUDGET | 1,003,301 |

FORECAST EXPENDITURE 2019-20

| | School | Status | New Pupils | No. of Classes | Remaining years | Sept 2019 - March 2020 | April 2020- August 2020 (recouped) | TOTAL COMMITMENT |
|-----------|---|--------------|------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|
| PRIMARY | Claycots School | Non-Academy | 30 | 1 | 3 | 58,597 | | 58,597 |
| | St Mary's CE Primary School | Non-Academy | 30 | 1 | 1 | 58,597 | | 58,597 |
| SECONDARY | Langley Grammar | Academy | 30 | 1 | 3 | 78,421 | 56,015 | 134,435 |
| | The Westgate School | Academy | 60 | 2 | 4 | 156,841 | 112,029 | 268,871 |
| | Wexham School | Non-Academy | 45 | 1.5 | 4 / 5 | 117,631 | | 117,631 |
| | 2nd Year of Academy Bulge Class | | | | | | | |
| | Marish Primary School (numbers grew from 99 to 129 between Oct-18 to Oct-19) | Academy | 30 | 1 | 1 | 100,452 | | 100,452 |
| | CONTINGENCY REQUIREMENTS | | | | | | | |
| | Marish bulge class | Academy | 30 | 1 | 1 | 58,597 | | 58,597 |
| | Grove Academy - underwriting support | Academy / FS | | | | 90,000 | 0 | |
| | Total | | 255 | 8.5 | | 719,136 | 168,044 | 797,180 |
| | UNDERSPEND (FINANCIAL YR 19-20) | | | | | 284,165 | | |

Sum to be paid from 2020-21 Growth Fund

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**2020-21 Growth Fund Allocations (£)
Outturn**

APPENDIX B

Date: May 2021

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Primary AWPU (2020-21) | 3,249.33 |
| Pupils per Class | 30 |
| Full Year Growth Funding Per Class | 97,479.90 |
| All schools (Sep 20 - Mar 21) | 56,863.28 |
| Academies (Apr 21 - Aug 21) | 40,616.63 |

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Secondary AWPU (2020-21 average) | 4,677.85 |
| KS3 | 4,419.49 |
| KS4 | 4,936.20 |
| Pupils per Class | 30 |
| Full Year Growth Funding Per Class | 140,335.35 |
| All schools (Sep 20 - Mar 21) | 81,862.29 |
| Academies (Apr 21 - Aug 21) | 58,473.06 |

| | | |
|---|----------------|-------------------------------|
| 2020-21 BUDGET (excluding funding claimed from the ESFA for academies) | | |
| CARRY FORWARD 2019-20 | 284,165 | confirmed |
| TOP SLICE FROM 2020-21 SCHOOL BLOCK | 600,000 | reduced from £800K in 2019-20 |
| TOTAL BUDGET | 884,165 | |

FORECAST EXPENDITURE 2020-21

| | School | Status | New Pupils | No. of Classes | Remaining years | Sept 2020 - March 2021 | April 2021- August 2021 (recouped) | TOTAL COMMITMENT |
|-----------------------------------|--|--------------|------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|
| PRIMARY | Claycots School | Non-Academy | 30 | 1 | 2 | 56,863 | | 56,863 |
| SECONDARY | Langley Grammar | Academy | 30 | 1 | 2 | 81,862 | 58,473 | 140,335 |
| | The Westgate School | Academy | 60 | 2 | 3 | 163,725 | 116,946 | 280,671 |
| | Wexham School | Non-Academy | 75 | 2.5 | 3 / 4 | 204,656 | | 204,656 |
| | 2nd Year of Academy Bulge Class | | | | | | | |
| | Marish Primary School (growth was 129 Oct-19 to 148 Oct-20) | Academy | 19 | 1 | | 61,737 | | 61,737 |
| Use of Contingency Funding | | | | | | | | |
| | Grove Academy - 5th Year 7 class | Academy / FS | 30 | 1 | | 81,862 | 58,473 | 140,335 |
| | Grove Academy - underwriting support | Academy / FS | | | | complete | | |
| | Total | | 244 | 8.5 | | 650,705 | 233,892 | 884,598 |
| | Academy commitment for Apr-20 to Aug-20 | | | | | 168,044 | | |
| | UNDERSPEND (FINANCIAL YR 20-21) | | | | | 65,415 | | |

Sum to be paid from 2021-22 Growth Fund

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2021-22 Estimated Growth Fund Allocations (£)

APPENDIX C

Date: May 2021

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Primary AWPU (2021-22) | 3,458.32 |
| Pupils per Class | 30 |
| Full Year Growth Funding Per Class | 103,749.60 |
| All schools (Sep 20 - Mar 21) | 60,520.60 |
| Academies (Apr 21 - Aug 21) | 43,229.00 |

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Secondary AWPU (2021-22 average) | 5,186.37 |
| KS3 | 4,876.86 |
| KS4 | 5,495.88 |
| Pupils per Class | 30 |
| Full Year Growth Funding Per Class | 155,591.10 |
| All schools (Sep 20 - Mar 21) | 90,761.48 |
| Academies (Apr 21 - Aug 21) | 64,829.63 |

| | | |
|---|----------------|--|
| 2021-22 BUDGET (excluding funding claimed from the ESFA for academies) | | |
| CARRY FORWARD 2020-21 (to be confirmed by School's Finance) | 65,415 | carry forward to be agreed by Schools' Forum |
| TOP SLICE FROM 2021-22 SCHOOL BLOCK (to be agreed by Schools' Forum) | 750,000 | previously agreed |
| TOTAL BUDGET | 815,415 | |

FORECAST EXPENDITURE 2021-22

| | School | Status | New Pupils | No. of Classes | Remaining years | Sept 2021 - March 2022 | April 2022 - August 2022 (recouped) | TOTAL COMMITMENT |
|---------------------------------|---|-------------|------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| PRIMARY | Claycots School | Non-Academy | 30 | 1 | 1 | 60,521 | | 60,521 |
| SECONDARY | Langley Grammar | Academy | 30 | 1 | 1 | 90,761 | 64,830 | 155,591 |
| | The Westgate School | Academy | 60 | 2 | 2 | 181,523 | 129,659 | 311,182 |
| | Wexham School | Non-Academy | 75 | 2.5 | 2 / 3 | 226,904 | | 226,904 |
| CONTINGENCY REQUIREMENTS | | | | | | | | |
| | Provisional secondary class | Non-Academy | 30 | 1 | 1 | 90,761 | | 90,761 |
| | Total | | 225 | 7.5 | | 650,470 | 194,489 | 844,959 |
| | Academy commitment for Apr-21 to Aug-21 | | | | | 233,892 | | |
| | UNDERSPEND (FINANCIAL YR 21-22) | | | | | -68,947 | | |

Sum to be paid from 2022-23 Growth Fund

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2022-23 Estimated Growth Fund Allocations (£)

Proposed catch-up year for academy payments

APPENDIX D

Date: May 2021

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Primary AWPU (2021-22) | 3,458.32 | 2022-23 rates will be different |
| Pupils per Class | 30 | |
| Full Year Growth Funding Per Class | 103,749.60 | |
| All schools (Sep 20 - Mar 21) | 60,520.60 | |
| Academies (Apr 21 - Aug 21) | 43,229.00 | |

| | | |
|---|-----------------|--|
| Secondary AWPU (2021-22 average) | 5,186.37 | 2022-23 rates will be different |
| KS3 | 4,876.86 | |
| KS4 | 5,495.88 | |
| Pupils per Class | 30 | |
| Full Year Growth Funding Per Class | 155,591.10 | |
| All schools (Sep 20 - Mar 21) | 90,761.48 | |
| Academies (Apr 21 - Aug 21) | 64,829.63 | |

| | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| 2021-22 BUDGET (excluding funding claimed from the ESFA for academies) | | |
| CARRY FORWARD 2021-22 (to be confirmed by School's Finance) | | -68,947 |
| TOP SLICE FROM 2022-23 SCHOOL BLOCK (to be agreed by Schools' Forum) | | 1,100,000 Estimate ignoring inflation |
| TOTAL BUDGET | | 1,031,053 |

FORECAST EXPENDITURE 2022-23

| School | Status | New Pupils | No. of Classes | Remaini ng years | Sept 2022 - March 2023 | April 2023- August 2023 (recouped) | TOTAL COMMITMENT |
|--|-------------|------------|----------------|------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|
| The Westgate School | Academy | 60 | 2 | 1 | 155,591 | 129,659 | 285,250 |
| Wexham School | Non-Academy | 75 | 2.5 | 1 / 2 | 226,904 | | 226,904 |
| CONTINGENCY | | | | | | | |
| 2nd Year of Academy Bulge Classes (estimated growth Oct22-Oct23) | | | | | | | |
| Secondary School | Academy | 15 | 1 | 1 | 77,796 | | 77,796 |
| CONTINGENCY REQUIREMENTS | | | | | | | |
| Provisional secondary academy class | Academy | 30 | 1 | 1 | 90,761 | 64,830 | 155,591 |
| Provisional secondary class | Non-Academy | 30 | 1 | 1 | 90,761 | | 90,761 |
| Total | | 210 | 7.5 | | 641,813 | 194,489 | 836,302 |
| Academy commitment for Apr-22 to Aug-22 | | | | | | 194,489 | |
| UNDERSPEND (FINANCIAL YR 22-23) | | | | | | 262 | |

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Slough Schools Forum

31 March 2021

Rt Hon Gavin Williamson MP
 Secretary of State for Education
 Department for Education
 Sanctuary Buildings
 20 Great Smith St
 London SW1P 3BT

Dear Mr Williamson

Maintained Nursery School (MNS) Funding

I write on behalf of Slough Schools' Forum, representing maintained schools and academies across the phases in Slough, to bring to your attention the urgency of reforming funding for maintained nursery schools and providing additional support to address the impact of the pandemic.

As you will be aware, the MNS supplementary funding was introduced in 2017 as a temporary measure, crucial to the survival of this vital part of the sector, while a long term solution was sought.

We are extremely concerned for the financial viability of our five maintained nursery schools in Slough. The MNS supplement has reduced from £1,131,000 in 2017 - 2018 to £772,350 (total confirmed and conditional amount) for 2021 – 2022. Of this total figure, £300,979 has been confirmed for April 2021 to August 2021 with the conditional (unconfirmed, September 2021 – March 2022) amount being £421,371.

In addition, the restrictions of the single funding formula guidance prevents the local authority from finding local solutions and providing our own additional funding.

Slough Schools' Forum members cannot stress enough how this situation has added to the financial insecurity for the long term viability of these schools.

Of the five maintained nursery schools in Slough, three were facing financial pressures prior to the first wave of the pandemic, as noted by Slough Schools Forum at the end of the financial year 2019-2020. However, the additional financial impact of the pandemic has further deepened the pressures for these nursery schools.

In the absence of any certainty about the funding allocations for the next financial year and beyond, our maintained nursery schools cannot plan a route to recovery.

Without an immediate prospect of long-term viable funding, the local authority and governors will have to make hard decisions about the future operation of the schools which provide a vital service to some of our most disadvantaged communities in Slough.

We are extremely concerned that a long-term solution has not been put in place for 2021 – 2022 and beyond.

Given the gravity of these concerns which have been deepened because of the impact of the pandemic we would ask for an update on the current funding position.

If maintained nursery schools are forced to close, the cost of looking after children in great need will fall upon other services at a time when they are already under severe pressure.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Your sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "JD Constable". The signature is written in a cursive style, with the first letters of "JD" and "Constable" being capitalized and prominent. A horizontal line is drawn under the name "Constable".

John Constable

Chair of Slough Schools Forum

Copies to:

Vicky Ford MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children and Families

Tan Dhesi MP, Member of Parliament for Slough

Councillor Martin Carter, Cabinet member for Children and Education, Slough Borough Council

Eleni Ioannides, Interim Director of Children's Services, Slough Borough Council / Interim Chief Executive, Slough Children First



2021-0021716VFPO

Vicky Ford MP

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Children and Families

Sanctuary Buildings 20 Great Smith Street Westminster London SW1P 3BT
tel: 0370 000 2288 www.education.gov.uk/contactus/dfe

John Constable
Chair of Slough Schools Forum
By email: johnconstable@lgs.slough.sch.uk

21 April 2021

Dear John,

Thank you for your letter of 31 March, addressed to the Secretary of State, about the future funding of maintained nursery schools (MNS). I am replying as the minister responsible for this policy area.

May I begin by wishing you well in these challenging times.

I agree with you that MNS are invaluable to the early years sector, not only in looking after some of our most vulnerable children, especially in disadvantaged areas, but also in sharing their knowledge and expertise in local areas in order to raise standards.

I am grateful to you for outlining your concerns and want to be clear that the government's commitment to the long-term funding of MNS is unchanged, and any reforms to the way they are funded will be accompanied by appropriate funding protections.

Like other early years providers, MNS have continued to receive early education entitlements funding during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak distributed via the Early Years National Funding Formula.

For 2021 to 2022, we have increased the hourly funding rates for all local authorities (LAs) by 8p an hour for the two-year-old entitlement and, for the vast majority of areas, by 6p an hour for the three- and four-year-old entitlement. This funding rate increase is paid for all the hours of childcare delivered by all types of providers in the LA's area, including MNS.

In addition to the hourly funding rate increase, we have also re-confirmed around £60 million, nationally, in supplementary funding for MNS for the financial year 2021 to 2022, to allow LAs to preserve MNS funding levels. Details of funding paid to LA are available at: tinyurl.com/95nccbWP.

Supplementary funding is demand-led, so the level of funding the LAs receive will follow the number of three- and four-year-olds taking up the universal 15 hours entitlement at MNS in their area.

Thank you for writing to me on this important matter. I hope this reply assures you of our continued commitment to the support of MNS.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Vicky Ford" with a small dash at the end. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Vicky Ford MP
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Children and Families

**Slough Schools' Forum: 2020/21
Proposed Forward Agenda Plan**

Meeting 5 – Thursday 13 May 2021

| No. | Description | Lead |
|------------|--|----------------|
| 1 | Update on National/Local Funding issues | Susan Woodland |
| 2 | Growth Fund: financial year-end position | Tony Madden |
| 3 | High Needs Block Deficit Strategy | |
| 4 | DSG Management Plan update | |
| 5 | SEND Quarterly Update | |
| 6 | Update from Task Groups: 5-16, HNB and Early Years | |
| 7 | Academies Update | |
| 8 | 2020/21 Forward Agenda Plan/Key Decisions Log | |

Meeting 6 – Tuesday 6 July 2021

| No. | Description | Lead |
|------------|--|-----------------|
| 1 | Update on National/Local Funding issues | |
| 2 | Update on Growth allocations and issues | Tony Madden |
| 3 | Annual DSG Report 2020/21 including impact | |
| 4 | Review of the Scheme for Financing Schools 2020/21 | |
| 5 | High Needs Centrally Retained update | |
| 6 | Early Years Update | Michael Jarrett |
| 7 | High Needs Block Deficit Strategy | |
| 8 | DSG Management Plan update | |
| 9 | SEND Update | |
| 10 | Update from Task Groups: 5-16, HNB and Early Years To include annual review of Terms of Reference | |
| 11 | Academies Update | |
| 12 | 2021/22 Forward Agenda Plan/Key Decisions Log | |

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Schools Forum Key Decisions Log January 2018 ongoing

| Issue and Decision | Schools Forum date | Schools Forum agenda item no. | School Forum Minute |
|--|--------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Matters Arising | | | |
| Peter Collins agreed as member of Schools Forum, representing academy schools. | 17/01/18 | 3 | 617 |
| 2017/18 DSG Monitoring Report | | | |
| 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. | 17/01/18 | 4 | 618 |
| Funding Formula Changes 2018/19 | | | |
| 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. | 17/01/18 | 5 | 619 |
| Central Services Schools Block (CSSB) | | | |
| 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 | 17/01/18 | 6 | 620 |
| Early Years | | | |
| Forum noted EY Task Group recommendations regarding implementation of EYNFF for 2018-19 | 17/01/18 | 7 | 621 |
| Growth Fund 2017-18 | | | |
| 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. | 17/01/18 | 8 | 622 |
| De-delegation Report | | | |
| 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. | 17/01/18 | 9 | 623 |
| 2017-18 Forward Agenda Plan and Key Decision Log | | | |
| Forum agreed appointment of Chair and Vice Chair be held at July 2018 meeting, prior to first meeting in the 2018-19 academic year. | 17/01/18 | 12 | 626 |
| Confirmation of Indicative Budgets 2018-19 | | | |
| Schools Forum agreed to transfer funding as follows: £17,325 from HNB to the CSSB £100,045 from HNB to the CSSB for ongoing responsibilities £548,000 from HNB to the SB for PFI | 06/03/18 | 5 | 632 |
| Early Years Block | | | |
| The same level of activity and model for 2018-19 would be required to maintain a similar level of centrally retained spend. In principle, Schools Forum endorsed this and a detailed report would be presented at the next meeting for formal approval. | 06/03/18 | 6 | 633 |
| PFI Update Report | | | |
| The Schools Block contribution was confirmed as £297,000 for one academic year only, 2018-19 and would be reviewed for 2019-20 A table would be produced to show where contributions had been made to the sum of £297,000. | 06/03/18 | 8 | 634 |
| High Needs Block Budget 2018-19 | | | |
| Members approved the centrally retained element for 2018-19 of £2.3m, which was a slight decrease on 2017-18. | 06/03/18 | 9 | 635 |
| Membership | | | |
| Kathy Perry from Mighty Acorns Nursery, was welcomed as the new PVI representative member. The Chair thanked Helen Huntley (who was retiring at the end of the Summer Term) for her valuable contributions as both a member of Schools Forum and as a champion of children and young people with special needs. | 05/07/18 | 1 | 640 |
| | 05/07/18 | 1 & 11 | 640/652 |
| Annual DSG Report 2017-18 | | | |
| Schools Forum noted the comprehensive DSG annual report and requested this appear as an annual item on agendas | 05/07/18 | 7 | 646 |

Schools Forum Key Decisions Log January 2018 ongoing

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| Review of the Scheme for Financing Schools 2017-18 | | | |
| Schools Forum noted the consultation but requested that details of any licensed deficit scheme be circulated to Schools Forum prior to consultation | 05/07/18 | 8 | 647 |
| Early Years Centrally Retained 2018-19 | | | |
| The details of the centrally retained Early Years funding for 2018-19 set out in the report were noted and lines of expenditure approved | 05/07/18 | 9 | 648 |
| Update from Task Groups | | | |
| Draft Terms of Reference for all three Task Groups were approved by Schools Forum | 05/07/18 | 10 | 649 |
| Election of Chair and Vice Chair | | | |
| The current Chair of Schools Forum would stand down at the end of the academic year: John Constable was proposed and duly elected to Chair of Schools Forum with effect from 1 September 2018, for a term of two years. | 05/07/18 | 11 | 652 |
| Schools Forum Membership/appointment of Vice Chair | | | |
| Noted that three members' terms of office due to finish 30 November 2018 and one further member had resigned. | | | |
| Forum agreed re-appointment of Jo Matthews as Special School/PRU Headteacher representative for a further year. | | | |
| Nominations to be sought from academy proprietors for the other three roles. | | | |
| One nomination for the role of Vice Chair and Nicky Willis, Executive Principal of Cippenham Primary School duly appointed for a two-year term. | 10/10/18 | 4 | 656 |
| Update from Task Groups: 5-16, HNB and Early Years | | | |
| Following 5-16 Task Group meeting, consultation to run with local schools from 15 October - 5 November 2018 regarding two options to move towards NFF (National Funding Formula of either 50% or 75%. Comments from schools to be invited. Task Group to meet again on 13th November following outcome of consultation. | 10/10/18 | 9 | 658 |
| Consultation results on the Scheme for Financing Schools and Licensed Deficit Scheme | | | |
| LA to write into the Scheme that maintained schools will be involved in discussions. | | | |
| Schools Forum approved the Scheme for Financing Schools. | 10/10/18 | 6 | 659 |
| Schools Forum Membership | | | |
| Following due process, Jon Reekie, governor at Phoenix Infant Academy reappointed, Susan Marsh, Headteacher Colnbrook Primary School and Ray Hinds, Baylis Court appointed, all for terms of two years. Eddie Neighbour, Upton Court Grammar School agreed to continue as an observer. | 04/12/18 | 5 | 668 |
| Growth Fund 2019/20 | | | |
| DSG top slice for 2019/20 of £900,000 was requested. SBC was also asked to underwrite Year 7 places at Grove Academy: Schools Forum agreed to fund £90,000 for 2018/19, and to continue the underwriting into 2019/20 as the third and final year with a maximum of £60,000 or 50% of the cost, whichever was the lower. | | | |
| Schools Forum also agreed the criteria for accessing Growth Fund in 2019/20 as proposed. With all these commitments taken into account, SF agreed a reduced DSG top slice of £800,000, leaving an estimated carry forward of £130,000 at the end of 2019/20. Falling rolls were thought likely to really impact in the year 2021/22 and it was suggested a supporting paper be presented to Schools Forum in the summer 2019. | 04/12/18 | 8 | 671 |
| DSG Budget 2019/20 | | | |
| A request was made to Schools Forum to approve re-allocation of funds to the correct blocks in order to correct DfE baseline errors. | | | |
| Schools Forum agreed to transfer £264,566 from High Needs Block to CSSB, £500,000 from High Needs Block to Schools Block, to re-allocate Virtual School funding of £100,000 from Historical commitment to Ongoing commitment within the CSSB, a move from 50% to 65% NFF in 2019/20 formula (following inconclusive consultation outcome). Schools Forum rejected SBC's proposal to transfer 0.5% (approximately £650,000) from 5-16 Schools Block to High Needs Block, based on the outcome of the consultation with schools. | 04/12/18 | 9 | 672 |
| Banding (High Needs top-up funding) Working Group update | | | |
| New Banding model to continue to be tested, with workshops and training sessions to be made available during the Spring term 2019. | 04/12/18 | 10 | 673 |
| Minutes of Previous Meeting | | | |
| Jo Matthews had stood down as Special School/PRU Representative but would continue as an Observer. The 3 special/PRU academies had confirmed that Neil Sykes would become Academy Special School member and Jamie Rockman Academy PRU member, both for 2 year terms of office w/e/f date of S/F meeting | 16/01/19 | 4 | 681 |
| S/F acknowledged the projected DSG outturn and approved the overall deficit should be carried forward into 2019-20 | 16/01/19 | 4 | 681 |
| De-delegated funding for behaviour support services | | | |
| 3 out of 4 S/F members representing maintained schools had voted against the de-delegation of funding from maintained school budgets for inclusion in the Schools Block APT | 16/01/19 | 7 | 684 |
| Early Years Centrally Retained Funds 2019/20 | | | |
| Schools Forum members noted and agreed the use of Centrally Retained Funds 2019/20 for the Early Years block. | 16/01/19 | 8 | 687 |
| High Needs Block - Deficit Reduction Strategy | | | |
| The ESFA had requested that LAs inform them how deficits, particularly in High Needs, were being addressed. The LA had responded that it was doing all it could to address the issue and this work was ongoing. There was evidence of underfunding whilst demand was increasing. The link between High Needs and PFI was | | | |

Schools Forum Key Decisions Log January 2018 ongoing

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| acknowledged and would be taken into account to reduce the deficit. A supporting paper would be presented to S/F for their March 2019 meeting. | 16/01/19 | 10 | 685 |
| High Needs Block – Centrally Retained Budget 2018/19 | | | |
| New commissioned Speech & Language service commissioned to be available from Friday 1 February. Communication to be made re. launch. | 16/01/19 | 11 | 686 |
| Any Other Business | | | |
| Chair of S/F to write to the Education Secretary, on behalf of members, regarding the proposal to withdraw supplementary funding for maintained nursery schools. | 16/01/19 | 15 | 692 |
| Minutes of Previous Meeting | | | |
| S/F meeting scheduled for Wednesday 15 May cancelled. | 05/03/19 | 3 | 695 |
| High Needs Funding - final proposal for banding model | | | |
| Consultation was extended by 2 weeks, closing on 1 March. New banding model to be introduced 1 April 2019, agreed feedback be given July and December 2019, and April and July 2020. Some continuing concerns from special schools but work ongoing with Vikram Hansrani. Key monitoring reports to be shared with S/F. | | | |
| S/F approved the new banding model and agreed to receive feedback reports at the key stages noted. | 05/03/19 | 6 | 698 |
| Update on Central School Services Block | | | |
| Due to slight increase in copyright costs the amount required for transfer from High Needs to CSSB reduced by approximately £10,000. | 05/03/19 | 8 | 700 |
| PFI Update | | | |
| Noted Council reviewing High Needs Block and possible Section 106 funding. | 05/03/19 | 9 | 701 |
| Schools Forum membership | | | |
| Terms of office of nine members due to finish 31 July 2019. Clerk to arrange nomination process/elections (if appropriate) | 05/03/19 | 12 | 704 |
| Matters Arising | | | |
| Decision made taken by SBC to fund the £184,000 to 3 PFI schools and guarantee to be taken. | 04/07/19 | 3 | 709 |
| Growth Fund 2018/19 | | | |
| Forum noted the contents of the Growth Fund 2018/19 outturn report and agreed the underwriting for Grove of £90,000 to £25,000 (2018/19) and maximum from £60,000 to £90,000 (2019/20) | 04/07/19 | 5 | 711 |
| DSG Budget Deficit Recovery Plan | | | |
| Neil Wilcox and Nic Barani to clarify whether historic £184,000 related to PFI contribution for Arbour Vale. | 04/07/19 | 7 | 713 |
| Review of the Scheme for Financing Schools 2019/20 | | | |
| LA noted that maintained schools to be consulted on dates of publishing such consultations in future. | 04/07/19 | 8 | 714 |
| Update from Task Groups | | | |
| All Task Groups to meet before November 2019 Schools Forum meeting. A list of respective Task Group members to be drawn up for regular circulation to members. | | | |
| Terms of Reference for 5-16, HNB and Early Years Task Groups approved, without change, for academic year 2019/20 | 04/07/19 | 9 | 715 |
| Schools Forum membership | | | |
| An email sent to all local schools, inviting nominations for membership | 04/07/19 | 10 | 716 |
| Any Other Business | | | |
| Forum approved the transfer of approximately £54,153 to Local School Improvement Board (LSIF) from Slough Primary Heads' Association (SPHA), being the remainder of £70,000 grant from DSG underspend agreed in 2016 to address issues around Recruitment and Retention. | 04/07/19 | 13 | 719 |
| Schools Forum Membership | | | |
| Following due process, it was confirmed that nine members of Schools Forum had been reappointed for a further two-year term. | 01/10/19 | 4 | 723 |
| Update on National/Local funding issues | | | |
| Schools Forum approved the transfer of £500,000 from HNB to Schools Block, to correct an historical error in the 2017/18 baseline. | | | |
| Schools Forum agreed that the consultation to schools should give two options for consideration, 65% and 85% National Funding Formula. | 01/10/19 | 5 | 724 |
| SEND Banding Update | | | |
| Schools Forum noted that Forum was to receive quarterly updates on the new banding model. | 01/10/19 | 9 | 728 |
| Growth Fund 2020-21 | | | |
| S/Forum noted primary 'bulge' classes now working through secondary sector. Only two primary schools receiving Growth Fund allocations. S/Forum noted primary 'bulge' classes now working through secondary sector, with continued high pupil movement into and out of Slough. For the past two years S/Forum had agreed to support 50% underwriting for Grove Academy. Members queried Grove moving from 2 form entry to 4 form entry in 2020/21 in light of falling rolls. | | | |
| S/Forum approved Growth Fund top slice of £600,000 giving an estimated underspend of £24,000 and underwriting for Grove 2019/20 at £90,000 (previously £60,000) Falling Rolls Fund not considered necessary at this time. | 12/11/19 | 6 | 738 |
| Proposed Transfer from Schools Block to High Needs Block | | | |

Schools Forum Key Decisions Log January 2018 ongoing

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| S/Forum noted the response to the consultation on the proposal to transfer 0.5% from Schools Block to High Needs Block and rejected the application, upholding the outcome of the consultation. LA representatives confirmed they would not apply to the DfE to overturn this decision. | 12/11/19 | 7 | 739 |
| Schools Block 5-16 Formula Consultation Outcome | | | |
| S/Forum noted the outcome to the other element of the consultation and recommended the LA follow the support to finalise budgets based on an 85% move towards the National Funding Formula (NFF). Final APT to be shared with S/Forum at next meeting. | 12/11/19 | 8 | 740 |
| Scheme for Financing Schools | | | |
| S/Forum noted 41% had responded to consultation on minor changes. Scheme only applicable to maintained schools and respective S/F members representing that sector approved the changes to the Scheme 2019/20. LA representatives noted request for changes to be shared earlier, although dependent on DfE | 12/11/19 | 9 | 741 |
| Update on Membership | | | |
| Philip Gregory, representing nursery sector and Peter Collins, representing academy sector reappointed unopposed as members of S/F. Maxine Wood appointed as 16-19 provider representative. | 15/01/20 | 3 | 748 |
| Final 2020-21 DSG Settlement | | | |
| Noted that the PFI premises factor had been allocated within Schools Block and transfer of £500,000 from High Needs in relation to PFI unnecessary. LA to adjust transfer and to be kept under review. | 15/01/20 | 6 | 751 |
| Schools Block 2020-21 - Final Authority Proforma Tool (APT) and budget timeline | | | |
| Final APT to be shared with S/F members electronically. | 15/01/20 | 7 | 752 |
| Central Schools Services Block 2020-21 | | | |
| S/F approved the transfer of £250,000 from High Needs to CSSB and agreed the service allocations as detailed at the meeting. | 15/01/20 | 8 | 753 |
| Early Years Block 2020-21 | | | |
| S/F agreed the use of centrally retained funds at 5% across the Early Years Block 2020-21. | 15/01/20 | 9 | 754 |
| 2019-20 DSG Budget monitoring (all blocks) | | | |
| S/F approved the deficits to be rolled forward into the new financial year. | 15/01/20 | 10 | 755 |
| High Needs Place Change Notification | | | |
| Detailed report on Resource Bases and specialist provision to be shared. | 15/01/20 | 11 | 756 |
| Meeting scheduled for 03/03/20 cancelled | | | |
| Meeting scheduled for 23/04/20 cancelled | | | |
| Meeting scheduled for 13/05/20 cancelled | | | |
| Annual DSG Report | | | |
| Concern expressed about Nursery funding. Piece of investigative work to be carried out on those schools holding excessively large amounts of money. | | | |
| Schools Forum noted overall deficit on 2019/20 DSG which would be reversible on 2020/21 DSG. | 14/07/20 | 7 | 768 |
| High Needs/SEND Review Update 2020/21 | | | |
| SBC Officers had met with ESFA representatives who acknowledged the SEND trends and pressures on Slough. Resources bases - ratification for any proposals suggested should be in line with Schools Forum calendar of meetings. | 14/07/20 | 8 | 769 |
| Impact of Covid-19 on School Finances: Local Perspective | | | |
| ESFA representative to refer points raised by Forum members to the ESFA. | 14/07/20 | 11 | 772 |
| Update from Task Groups: 5-16, HNB, Early Years | | | |
| Terms of Reference for respective T/G approved by Schools Forum for 2020/21. | 14/07/20 | 12 | 773 |
| Election of Chair and Vice Chair | | | |
| Schools Forum endorsed the reappointment of John Constable as Chair for a further two-year term. Election of Vice Chair deferred to next meeting. | 14/07/20 | 14 | 775 |
| Schools Forum Membership | | | |
| Nominations to be sought for a Primary academy governor representative and a Secondary academy representative | 01/10/20 | 5 | 781 |
| Scheme for Financing Schools (maintained) 2020/21 & proposed consultation | | | |
| Maintained school members approved minor amendments in the Scheme for Financing Schools: Consultation document to be circulated. | 01/10/20 | 8 | 784 |
| SEND Quarterly Update | | | |
| Quarterly visual of banding update to be shared with Schools Forum | 01/10/20 | 11 | 787 |
| Update from Task Groups: Early Years, 5-16 and HNB | | | |
| All three Task Groups to arrange to meet. | 01/10/20 | 12 | 788 |
| Any Other Business | | | |
| Chair to follow up whether ESFA representative had taken concerns back to DfE about Covid-19 associated precaution costs impacting on schools. | 01/10/20 | 15 | 791 |

Schools Forum Key Decisions Log January 2018 ongoing

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| Schools Block 2021/22: consultation outcome and Task Group recommendation | | | |
| Schools Forum endorsed the recommendation to move to full NFF or as close as final settlement allowed. | | | |
| Schools Forum rejected the request to transfer £600,000 from Schools Block to High Needs Block. | | | |
| Proposals to change SBC's Admissions Team noted. Schools Forum approved transfer of £100,000 from Schools Block to Central School Service Block in order to support this change. Request for transfer and report to be made to Schools Forum on an annual basis. | 09/12/20 | 6 | 797 |
| Scheme for Financing (maintained) Schools 2020/21: update on consultation | | | |
| Schools Forum noted the outcome of the consultation. | 09/12/20 | 8 | 799 |
| High Needs Block Centrally Retained Budget | | | |
| Schools Forum noted the outcome of the consultation. | 09/12/20 | 9 | 800 |
| Schools Forum Membership update | | | |
| Jamie Rockman and Neil Sykes reappointed for further 2 year terms of office as Special School/PRU representatives | 19/01/21 | 4 | 810 |
| Schools Block Budget: Final Authority Proforma Tool (APT) and timeline for 2021/22 | | | |
| Sign off by Cabinet (due on to meet 22 February) and ESFA prior to issuing budgets to schools. | | | |
| Ongoing issue of Maintained Nursery Supplement (MNS) had been raised with DfE as a financial risk and need for long-term plan requested. | 19/01/21 | 6 | 812 |
| DSG Budget Monitoring Report (all blocks) | | | |
| Schools Forum NOTED the financial position and APPROVED the carry forwards of deficits, dependent on the figures presented to Schools Forum at their next meeting. | 19/01/21 | 7 | 813 |
| High Needs Place Change Notification | | | |
| Schools Forum Noted the LA had submitted the ESFA High Needs Placement Change Notification 2021/22 form, in Novemembr 2020. | 19/01/21 | 8 | 814 |
| Growth Fund 2021/22 allocations and issues | | | |
| Schools Forum AGREED the principles of the allocations 2021/22 and the carry forward and top slice for 2021/22. in line with the previous year and aligned with the Schools Block. | 19/01/21 | 9 | 815 |
| DSG Deficit Management Plan update | | | |
| DSG Deficit Management Plan outlined, with a focus on High Needs deficit reduction but with a number of departments updating. This was a 'live' document which was to be available to stakeholders: the DfE would monitor and it was likely would request regular meetings with the LA and would review Schools Forum papers to confirm the members had been kept informed. | 19/01/21 | 11 | 817 |
| Schools Forum Membership update | | | |
| Eddie Neighbour appointed as Academy representative for 2 year term of office. | 24/03/21 | 4 | 825 |
| DSG Management Plan update | | | |
| SEND banding matrix to be further reviewed, to incorporate alternative provision and linked to Resource Base review work. | | | |
| DSG Management Plan to be presented to Schools Forum in the Summer term. | 24/03/21 | 8 | 829 |
| SEND Quarterly Update | | | |
| Place top-up funding for schools with attached Resource bases queried. LA error affecting academies, to be reported on at next meeting. | 24/03/21 | 9 | 830 |
| Update from Task Groups: Early Years, 5-16 and HNB | | | |
| Early Years: Schools Forum NOTED the conclusions in the report provided and AGREED the recommendation of EY Task Group for the introduction of Option 1, to come into effect from Thursday 1 April, 2021. | | | |
| Ongoing issue of Maintained Nursery Schools (MNS) supplement discussed. Noted this is a national issue, resulting in a great deal of uncertainty in the sector. | | | |
| Chair of Schools Forum to draft letter of concern, on behalf of Schools Forum, in consultation with Michael Jarrett, LA and Phil Gregory, nursery headteacher representative. | 24/03/21 | 10 | 831 |

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