

Schools Forum Key Decisions Log September 2016 and ongoing

| Issue and Decision | Schools Forum date | Schools Forum agenda item no. | School Forum Minute |
|--|--------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Membership Update | | | |
| Kathleen Higgins attending as an observer now that Beechwood is an academy | 13/10/2016 | 4 | 511 |
| PFI Proposal | | | |
| Clarification of factor and SBC contribution to affordability gap deferred to December | 13/10/2016 | 5 | 510 |
| High Needs Block | | | |
| 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 |
| PFI Update | | | |
| £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 |
| High Needs Block | | | |
| 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 |
| Centrally Retained | | | |
| Recommendation agreed to retain £723,598 | 06/12/2016 | 7 | 526 |
| Education Support Grant | | | |
| 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 |
| De-delegated items | | | |
| Behaviour Support Services (SEBDOS) approved but 5k for trade union activity NOT approved | 06/12/2016 | 10 | 529 |
| Growth Fund 2017-18 | | | |
| £900k centrally retained support for primary and secondary 2017/18 approved. | 06/12/2016 | 11 | 530 |
| Matters arising | | | |
| 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 |
| ESG de-delegation | | | |
| 45k ESG de-delegation paper approved by maintained schools. | 10/01/2017 | 3 | 538 |
| Schools Block Budget | | | |
| 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 |
| Forum membership | | | |
| 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 |
| National Fair Funding Update | | | |
| DfE Stage 2 consultation: schools were encouraged to make individual responses (deadline 22nd March) in addition to collective Schools Forum response. https://consult.education.gov.uk/funding-policy-unit/schools-national-funding-formula2/ | 09/02/2017 | 4 | 550 |
| Growth Fund 2017-18 | | | |
| 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 |
| High Needs Block | | | |
| Schools Forum consulted on draft High Needs Block and some outstanding clarifications pending. . | 09/02/2017 | 7 | 553 |
| Matters Arising | | | |

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| 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 |
| Review of Scheme for Financing Schools | | | |
| 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 |
| Early Years Funding Formula | | | |
| 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 |
| Membership | | | |
| 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 |
| High Needs Block Centrally Retained | | | |
| 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 |
| High Needs Group Terms of Reference | | | |
| Terms of Reference for High Needs Group were endorsed. | 06/07/2017 | 9 | 568 |
| Membership | | | |
| 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 |
| Chair and Vice Chair | | | |
| Election of Maggie Waller as Chair and John Constable as Vice Chair confirmed to June 2018 | 10/10/2017 | 2 | 575 |
| Schools' DSG Out-Turn 2016/17 | | | |
| Report noted with the 13 maintained schools carry forward balances. | 10/10/2017 | 5 | 578 |
| Early Years Funding | | | |
| Report noted and EY Task Group to meet as part of the development of the 2018-19 budget. | 10/10/2017 | 6 | 579 |
| High Needs Block | | | |
| 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 |
| National Funding Formula | | | |
| Update provided and Task Group to meet to look at modelling for 2018/19 transition to NFF. | 10/10/2017 | 10 | 583 |
| Langley Hall Primary Academy: Exceptional Premises Factor Request | | | |
| 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 |
| Scheme for Financing Schools | | | |
| 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 |
| School Improvement and Education Services Grant 2017/18 | | | |
| 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 |
| Minutes of Previous Meeting | | | |
| 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 | | | |
| Schools National Funding Formula 2018/19 | | | |
| NFF models to be submitted to 5-16 Task Group prior to consultation with schools | 09/11/2017 | 5 | 595 |

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| Schools Forum Constitution Update | | | |
| Slough Schools Forum Guidance update to be taken to full Council | 09/11/2017 | 7 | 597 |
| Matters Arising | | | |
| Noted closing date for election process for academy member noted: Friday 8 December 2017 | 06/12/2017 | 2 | 602 |
| Formula Changes for 2018/19 | | | |
| 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 |
| Scheme for Financing Schools | | | |
| Reported no issues following consultation. Consultation with maintained schools completed. Maintained schools' members of Forum approved the revised scheme. | 06/12/2017 | 6 | 606 |
| Report on Resources Base Task Group Proposal/High Needs Commissioning Places | | | |
| 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 |
| High Needs Centrally Retained Clarification (budget codes and descriptors/Centrally Retained Budgets 2017-18 | | | |
| 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 |