

# Slough Schools Forum – Key Decisions Log AY 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24 & 2024/25

Updated 17.10.24

ACADEMIC YEAR 2021/22			
Issue and decision	Forum date	Agenda item	Minute ref
<b>School Forum membership update</b>	09/12/21	4	866
Gill Denham confirmed as academies member			
Chair to write to Coral Snowden and Peter Collins to ask if they wish to continue in post from January 2022			
<b>DSG 2021/22 Monitoring report</b>	09/12/21	6	868
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the current DSG position as set out in the monitoring report			
<b>DSG funding update 2022/23</b>	09/12/21	7	869
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the provisional DSG allocation for 2022/23 as set out in the report			
<b>Schools Block 2022/23</b>	09/12/21	9	871
LA to provide scenario modelling with and without requested 0.5% DSG top slice, to inform decision on block transfer in January meeting			
<b>Early Years update</b>	09/12/21	10	872
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the verbal report on EY funding			
<b>Scheme for Financing Schools</b>	09/12/21	11	873
Changes to the Scheme for Financing Schools, required in relation to the UK leaving the European Union, <b>APPROVED</b> by maintained school members, subject to confirmation from maintained secondary member (absent from meeting)			
<b>Schools Forum membership update</b>	19/01/22	5	879
Peter Collins confirmed as academies member for two years until January 2024			
Coral Snowden's term extended until July 2022			
Nominations to be sought for secondary academy member vacancy			
<b>DSG 2021/22 monitoring report</b>	19/01/22	7	880
Forum <b>NOTED</b> current 2021/22 DSG position			
<b>DSG Management Plan update</b>	19/01/22	8	881
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the verbal update from Johnny Kyriacou on the DSG management plan			
<b>SEND Banding</b>	19/01/22	9	882
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the verbal update from Chelsea Barnes on changes to the SEND banding matrix			
<b>Growth Fund update</b>	19/01/22	10	883
Forum <b>APPROVED</b> the Growth Fund criteria for 2022/23			
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the forecast position for the three years 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24			
<b>Schools Block 2022/23</b>	19/01/22	11	883
Forum <b>APPROVED</b> the transfer of £100k from Schools Block to the CSSB			
Forum <b>APPROVED</b> the transfer of the balancing 0.44% figure (£676k) to the High Needs block transfer.			
Report brought to March Forum meeting describing in detail the difference that this funding has made and how the funds transferred are being allocated.			
<b>Early Years funding 2022/23</b>	19/01/22	12	884
Forum members endorsed the EY Task Group recommendation and <b>APPROVED</b> Option 1 from the 2022/23 funding consultation			
<b>AOB – School Improvement funding</b>	19/01/22	16	888
Discussion to be arranged between LA officers and the chairs of SPHA and SASH to develop proposals for school improvement funding to take to the School Improvement Board and bring back to Forum.			

<b>DSG monitoring report 2021/22</b>	<b>10/03/22</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>894</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the latest DSG position.			
<b>DSG Schools Block 2022-23</b>	<b>10/03/22</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>895</b>
Kamaljit Kaur confirmed she would follow up NNDR payment mechanism and issue clarification for all schools.			
<b>CSSB budget 2022-23</b>	<b>10/03/22</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>896</b>
Forum <b>APPROVED</b> transfer of £180,815 from High Needs block to the CSSB for 2022-23			
Forum <b>AGREED</b> allocation within the CSSB as proposed by the local authority.			
<b>EY centrally retained budget 2022-23</b>	<b>10/03/22</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>897</b>
Forum <b>AGREED</b> the use of the central retained funding as proposed by the local authority.			
<b>DSG Management plan update</b>	<b>10/03/22</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>898</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the Cabinet report on current status of DSG Management Plan and accompanying verbal update			
Written or verbal update to be given at next meeting			
<b>Task group update</b>	<b>10/03/22</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>899</b>
Work of Task groups (Schools Block, High Needs and EY)			
<b>Forward agenda and Key decisions log</b>	<b>10/03/22</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>901</b>
Key decisions log to be updated for May meeting (Chair)			
<b>Forum membership</b>	<b>05/07/22</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>906</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the adjustments to members' terms of office to better align with the academic terms.			
Chair agreed to seek nominations to fill primary and secondary vacancies in September			
<b>Update on national/local funding issues</b>	<b>05/07/22</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>907</b>
Chair agreed to collate and return Forum response to DfE consultation on national funding formula.			
<b>High Needs Budget 2022/23</b>	<b>05/07/22</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>911</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the allocation of centrally retained funding			
<b>Scheme for financing schools</b>	<b>05/07/22</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>912</b>
Maintained Forum members <b>AGREED</b> the proposed minor change to the current Scheme raising the tender threshold from £10k to £25k			
<b>ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/23</b>			
<b>Issue and decision</b>	<b>Forum date</b>	<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Minute ref</b>
<b>DSG 2022/23 Monitoring report</b>	<b>10/11/22</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>923</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the current DSG position as set out in the monitoring report			
<b>DSG Management Plan update</b>	<b>10/11/22</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>924</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the verbal update from Johnny Kyriacou on the DSG management plan and the application to the DfE Safety Valve programme			
<b>Schools Block 2023/24</b>	<b>10/11/22</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>926</b>
Forum <b>APPROVED</b> the transfer of £100k from Schools Block to the CSSB.			
Forum <b>APPROVED</b> the transfer of the balancing figure (0.5% less £100k) to the High Needs block, subject to confirmation in January 2023 following final DSG settlement.			
Forum <b>ENDORSED</b> the LA recommendation that DSG headroom be allocated through the basic entitlement factor			
<b>Resource provision and AP place commissioning</b>	<b>13/01/23</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>937</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the number of resource and alternative provision places commissioned by the LA in academies for September 2023.			
<b>Growth Fund 2023/24</b>	<b>13/01/23</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>938</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the proposed 2023/24 Schools Block top slice of £565k to support the Growth Fund.			

<b>DSG Management Plan and Safety Valve programme</b>	<b>13/01/23</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>939</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the verbal update from Johnny Kyriacou on the DSG management plan and the application to the DfE Safety Valve programme			
<b>DSG settlement 2023/24</b>	<b>13/01/23</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>940</b>
Forum <b>CONFIRMED</b> the overall 0.5% transfer from Schools Block to the CSSB (£100k) and HNB (0.5% less £100k) as provisionally approved in November 2022.			
Forum <b>ENDORSED</b> the LA's proposals for the overall 2023/24 DSG allocation.			
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the LA's continued commitment to allocate DSG headroom through the basic entitlement factor.			
<b>DSG Management Plan update</b>	<b>14/07/23</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>949</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the verbal update from Neil Hoskinson on the DSG management plan and the application DfE Safety Valve programme			
<b>Primary-secondary funding ratio</b>	<b>14/07/23</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>950</b>
Forum <b>AGREED</b> that discussion of the impact of the formula decisions on the primary-secondary ratio be discussed within the 5-16 Task Group Chair was tasked with responding to the SPHA letter			
<b>Local School Improvement Fund</b>	<b>14/07/23</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>951</b>
Forum <b>AGREED</b> the proposed principles for the future operation of the LSIF, to now be delegated to the phase associations with a regular report back to Forum.			
<b>Schools Forum membership update</b>	<b>14/07/23</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>952</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> that the terms of office of a number of members would end in August 2023. Chair to write to members asking if they wish to continue. Chair to seek nominations to fill primary and secondary academy vacancies			
<b>Reappointment of Chair</b>	<b>14/07/23</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>953</b>
John Constable reappointed as Chair for the AY 2023/24			
<b>Forward agenda plan</b>	<b>14/07/23</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>954</b>
Forum <b>AGREED</b> the structure of meetings proposed for 2023/24			
<b>ACADEMIC YEAR 2023/24</b>			
<b>Issue and decision</b>	<b>Forum date</b>	<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Minute ref</b>
<b>Schools Forum membership update</b>	<b>28/09/23</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>961</b>
Rhodri Bryant confirmed as secondary academies member (subject to formal approval by academy proprietors), representing The Langley Academy			
<b>2022/23 DSG outturn</b>	<b>28/09/23</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>963</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the 2022/23 DSG outturn and the receipt of the first payment of £10.8 million from the DfE under the Safety Valve programme.			
<b>DSG Management Plan update</b>	<b>28/09/23</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>964</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the verbal update from Neil Hoskinson on the DSG management plan and the application DfE Safety Valve programme			
<b>2024/25 DSG Budget setting timetable</b>	<b>28/09/23</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>965</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the LA's timetable for consultation with schools on (a) the annual request to transfer 0.5% from Schools Block to the High Needs Block, and (b) the proposed allocation of any headroom through AWPU.			
<b>Update on task groups</b>	<b>28/09/23</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>967</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the continued role of the Early Years Task Group.			
Forum <b>ENDORSED</b> the role of the 5-16 Task Group in examining the impact of the DSG settlement on 2024/25 school budgets, and in clarifying how the primary-secondary ratio is affected by decision about NFF factor rates. Forum <b>ENDORSED</b> the membership of the 5-16 group, to include Valerie Harffey.			
Forum <b>AGREED</b> that there was sufficient headteacher representation on other groups to provide oversight of the High Needs block, and that a High Needs Task Group was not currently needed.			
<b>2023/24 DSG update</b>	<b>09/11/23</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>977</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the Quarter 2 position for the 2023/24 DSG.			

<b>2023/24 Growth Fund update</b>	<b>09/11/23</b>	<b>7a</b>	<b>978</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the updated 2023/24 Growth Fund position.			
<b>2023/24 Central School Services Block (CSSB)</b>	<b>09/11/23</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>979</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the CSSB allocation for 2023/24.			
Forum <b>APPROVED</b> the line-by-line allocation within the CSSB as proposed by the local authority.			
<b>DSG Management Plan update</b>	<b>09/11/23</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>980</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the update from Neil Hoskinson on the DSG management plan and the Safety Valve programme			
<b>Schools Block 2023/24</b>	<b>09/11/23</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>981</b>
Forum <b>PROVISIONALLY APPROVED</b> a transfer of 0.5% to the High Needs block, subject to confirmation in January 2024.			
Forum <b>ENDORSED</b> the LA recommendation that DSG headroom be allocated through the basic entitlement factor.			
<b>Schools Forum membership update</b>	<b>11/01/24</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>990</b>
Claire Fletcher confirmed as primary maintained schools member representing Penn Wood School			
<b>DSG Management Plan update</b>	<b>11/01/24</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>992</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the update from Neil Hoskinson on the DSG management plan and the Safety Valve programme			
<b>Resource Provision &amp; AP Place Commissioning</b>	<b>11/01/24</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>993</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the update from Len Brazier on the work of the SEND Sufficiency working group and the LA plans for a revised joint commissioning strategy to be put forward by the end of the financial year.			
<b>Growth Fund 2024/25</b>	<b>11/01/24</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>994</b>
Forum <b>APPROVED</b> the criteria for the 2024/25 Growth Fund and <b>AGREED</b> the LA proposal for a top slice of £500k top slice for 2024/25.			
<b>AP Place Funding 2024/2025</b>	<b>11/01/24</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>995</b>
Forum members supported the principle of collaborative funding non-statutory alternative provision from the schools block, and requested the LA explore this with the DfE Commissioners.			
<b>DSG Schools Block 2024/2025</b>	<b>11/01/24</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>996</b>
Forum <b>CONFIRMED</b> the November 2023 provisional decision to transfer 0.5% to the high needs block, and <b>ENDORSED</b> the LA proposals for the 2024/25 local formula and the distribution of headroom through basic entitlement. Forum also <b>APPROVED</b> the transfer of £100k from within the overall 0.5% to the CSSB should this be deemed necessary by the LA, with the balance transferring to the high needs block.			
<b>Early Years Block 2024/25</b>	<b>11/01/24</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>997</b>
Forum members <b>NOTED</b> the contents of the report and endorsed the decisions made			
<b>DSG Management Plan update</b>	<b>13/03/24</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1007</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the latest update from Neil Hoskinson on the DSG management plan and the Safety Valve programme			
<b>School Block 2024/2025 Update</b>	<b>13/03/24</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1008</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the update in relation to the APT final submission. In particular, Forum <b>NOTED</b> the adjustments required by the change to the arrangements for payment of Non-National Domestic Rates (NNDR) and <b>CONFIRMED</b> the transfer of £100k from within the overall 0.5% block transfer to CSSB – see minute 996 from 11/01/24.			
<b>Central School Services Block 2024/2025</b>	<b>13/03/24</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1009</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the cost pressures on the CSSB and the LA proposed allocation for 2024/25			
Forum <b>APPROVED</b> the line-by-line allocation within the CSSB as proposed by the LA.			
<b>Early Years Block 2024/25 – Centrally retained budgets</b>	<b>13/03/24</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1010</b>
Forum <b>APPROVED</b> the use of the central retained EY funding as proposed by the local authority.			
<b>Schools Forum membership update</b>	<b>26/06/24</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1018</b>
Forum <b>APPROVED</b> the extension of John Constable’s term as Chair until December 2024 to align with his resignation as a Forum member at the end of the Autumn term.			
<b>Growth Fund update</b>	<b>26/06/24</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1018</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the outturn position (£253k surplus) for 2023/24, and the forecast position for the two following years 2024/25 and 2025/26			

<b>ACADEMIC YEAR 2024/25</b>			
<b>Issue and decision</b>	<b>Forum date</b>	<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Minute ref</b>
<b>Schools Forum membership update</b>	<b>17/10/24</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1031</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the appointment of Jo Evans (SBM, Claycots School) as a maintained schools' member.			
<b>DSG 2024/25 - Q1 Monitoring Report and Update</b>	<b>17/10/24</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1033</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the update from Dave McNamara on the DSG management plan position at the end of Q1.			
<b>DSG 2025/26 – Schools Block work plan</b>	<b>17/10/24</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1034</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the proposals from Dave McNamara setting out the timeline for the confirmation of the 2025-26 Schools Block allocations.			
<b>SEND update</b>	<b>17/10/24</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1035</b>
Forum <b>NOTED</b> the update from Neil Hoskinson on the SEND sufficiency plan			