

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

Updated 28.12.24

ACADEMIC YEAR 2021/22			
Issue and decision	Forum date	Agenda item	Minute ref
School Forum membership update	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			
DSG 2021/22 Monitoring report	09/12/21	6	868
Forum NOTED the current DSG position as set out in the monitoring report			
DSG funding update 2022/23	09/12/21	7	869
Forum NOTED the provisional DSG allocation for 2022/23 as set out in the report			
Schools Block 2022/23	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			
Early Years update	09/12/21	10	872
Forum NOTED the verbal report on EY funding			
Scheme for Financing Schools	09/12/21	11	873
Changes to the Scheme for Financing Schools, required in relation to the UK leaving the European Union, APPROVED by maintained school members, subject to confirmation from maintained secondary member (absent from meeting)			
Schools Forum membership update	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			
DSG 2021/22 monitoring report	19/01/22	7	880
Forum NOTED current 2021/22 DSG position			
DSG Management Plan update	19/01/22	8	881
Forum NOTED the verbal update from Johnny Kyriacou on the DSG management plan			
SEND Banding	19/01/22	9	882
Forum NOTED the verbal update from Chelsea Barnes on changes to the SEND banding matrix			
Growth Fund update	19/01/22	10	883
Forum APPROVED the Growth Fund criteria for 2022/23			
Forum NOTED the forecast position for the three years 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24			
Schools Block 2022/23	19/01/22	11	883
Forum APPROVED the transfer of £100k from Schools Block to the CSSB			
Forum APPROVED 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.			
Early Years funding 2022/23	19/01/22	12	884
Forum members endorsed the EY Task Group recommendation and APPROVED Option 1 from the 2022/23 funding consultation			
AOB – School Improvement funding	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.			

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

DSG Management Plan and Safety Valve programme	13/01/23	9	939
Forum NOTED the verbal update from Johnny Kyriacou on the DSG management plan and the application to the DfE Safety Valve programme			
DSG settlement 2023/24	13/01/23	10	940
Forum CONFIRMED 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 ENDORSED the LA's proposals for the overall 2023/24 DSG allocation.			
Forum NOTED the LA's continued commitment to allocate DSG headroom through the basic entitlement factor.			
DSG Management Plan update	14/07/23	6	949
Forum NOTED the verbal update from Neil Hoskinson on the DSG management plan and the application DfE Safety Valve programme			
Primary-secondary funding ratio	14/07/23	7	950
Forum AGREED 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			
Local School Improvement Fund	14/07/23	8	951
Forum AGREED 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.			
Schools Forum membership update	14/07/23	9	952
Forum NOTED 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			
Reappointment of Chair	14/07/23	10	953
John Constable reappointed as Chair for the AY 2023/24			
Forward agenda plan	14/07/23	11	954
Forum AGREED the structure of meetings proposed for 2023/24			
ACADEMIC YEAR 2023/24			
Issue and decision	Forum date	Agenda item	Minute ref
Schools Forum membership update	28/09/23	5	961
Rhodri Bryant confirmed as secondary academies member (subject to formal approval by academy proprietors), representing The Langley Academy			
2022/23 DSG outturn	28/09/23	7	963
Forum NOTED the 2022/23 DSG outturn and the receipt of the first payment of £10.8 million from the DfE under the Safety Valve programme.			
DSG Management Plan update	28/09/23	8	964
Forum NOTED the verbal update from Neil Hoskinson on the DSG management plan and the application DfE Safety Valve programme			
2024/25 DSG Budget setting timetable	28/09/23	9	965
Forum NOTED 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.			
Update on task groups	28/09/23	11	967
Forum NOTED the continued role of the Early Years Task Group.			
Forum ENDORSED 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 ENDORSED the membership of the 5-16 group, to include Valerie Harffey.			
Forum AGREED 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.			
2023/24 DSG update	09/11/23	7	977
Forum NOTED the Quarter 2 position for the 2023/24 DSG.			

2023/24 Growth Fund update	09/11/23	7a	978
Forum NOTED the updated 2023/24 Growth Fund position.			
2023/24 Central School Services Block (CSSB)	09/11/23	8	979
Forum NOTED the CSSB allocation for 2023/24.			
Forum APPROVED the line-by-line allocation within the CSSB as proposed by the local authority.			
DSG Management Plan update	09/11/23	9	980
Forum NOTED the update from Neil Hoskinson on the DSG management plan and the Safety Valve programme			
Schools Block 2023/24	09/11/23	10	981
Forum PROVISIONALLY APPROVED a transfer of 0.5% to the High Needs block, subject to confirmation in January 2024.			
Forum ENDORSED the LA recommendation that DSG headroom be allocated through the basic entitlement factor.			
Schools Forum membership update	11/01/24	5	990
Claire Fletcher confirmed as primary maintained schools member representing Penn Wood School			
DSG Management Plan update	11/01/24	7	992
Forum NOTED the update from Neil Hoskinson on the DSG management plan and the Safety Valve programme			
Resource Provision & AP Place Commissioning	11/01/24	8	993
Forum NOTED 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.			
Growth Fund 2024/25	11/01/24	9	994
Forum APPROVED the criteria for the 2024/25 Growth Fund and AGREED the LA proposal for a top slice of £500k top slice for 2024/25.			
AP Place Funding 2024/2025	11/01/24	10	995
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.			
DSG Schools Block 2024/2025	11/01/24	11	996
Forum CONFIRMED the November 2023 provisional decision to transfer 0.5% to the high needs block, and ENDORSED the LA proposals for the 2024/25 local formula and the distribution of headroom through basic entitlement. Forum also APPROVED 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.			
Early Years Block 2024/25	11/01/24	12	997
Forum members NOTED the contents of the report and endorsed the decisions made			
DSG Management Plan update	13/03/24	7	1007
Forum NOTED the latest update from Neil Hoskinson on the DSG management plan and the Safety Valve programme			
School Block 2024/2025 Update	13/03/24	8	1008
Forum NOTED the update in relation to the APT final submission. In particular, Forum NOTED the adjustments required by the change to the arrangements for payment of Non-National Domestic Rates (NNDR) and CONFIRMED the transfer of £100k from within the overall 0.5% block transfer to CSSB – see minute 996 from 11/01/24.			
Central School Services Block 2024/2025	13/03/24	9	1009
Forum NOTED the cost pressures on the CSSB and the LA proposed allocation for 2024/25			
Forum APPROVED the line-by-line allocation within the CSSB as proposed by the LA.			
Early Years Block 2024/25 – Centrally retained budgets	13/03/24	10	1010
Forum APPROVED the use of the central retained EY funding as proposed by the local authority.			
Schools Forum membership update	26/06/24	5	1018
Forum APPROVED 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.			
Growth Fund update	26/06/24	5	1018
Forum NOTED the outturn position (£253k surplus) for 2023/24, and the forecast position for the two following years 2024/25 and 2025/26			

