

**Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 1st July 2015**

**Wellington Suite, Tollbar Conference Centre**

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| Present: | | David Hampson (DH) (Chair) | | | Cllr Ros James (RJ) | | |
|  | | Louise Wilson (LW) | | | Paul Cordy (PC) | | |
|  | | George Krawiec (GK) | | | Jeanette Bennett (JB) | | |
|  | | Jane Aukett (JA) | | | David Kirven (DK) | | |
|  | | Carol Shaw (CS)  Gemma Rylatt (GR)  Phil Hutchinson (PH)  Trevor Wray (TW) | | | Kim Stevens (KS) (minutes) | | |
|  | | Kim Leach (KL)  Lorna Pendred (LP) | | |  | | |
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| In attendance: | | | Sam Swinburn (SS) for Item 59 /15 | /15 | | | | |
| Apologies: | | | Jean Mason, Elaine Davies, Allie Major, Andy Zielinski, Alex Allenby | | | | |  | |
|  |  | | | | | **Action** |
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| **54/15**  **55/15**  **56/15**  **57/15**  **58/15**  **59/15**  **60/15**  **61/15** | **Minutes and matters arising of the meeting held on 17th March 2015**  Minutes agreed as a true record – GK  Seconded – JA  47/15 Updated Schools Funding Contingency Procedure – Falling Rolls Fund Contingency  DK had updated on this action shortly after the meeting – if school has converted to an Academy then it retains its last classification.  49/15 SEN – High Needs Block Allocation 2015-16  GR to email the questions AZ has about this subject to DK who will pass them to Denise Faulconbridge. DF to either email the response to the School Forum or report back to the next meeting.  **Dedicated Schools Grant Financial Settlement 2015 – 16 Block Allocation Analysis**  *The purpose of this paper is to provide schools forum members with a breakdown of the 2015-16 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) block allocation which was published by the DfE on the 17th December 2014 and final allocations confirmed during March 2015.*  Recommendation  It is recommended that members note the contents of this report.  No questions raised.  **Review of the implementation of the 2015-16 Schools Funding Formula**  *The purpose of this report is to provide members of the Schools Forum with summary information produced by the Education Funding Agency (EFA) on all of the school funding formula’s submitted by each Local Authority so they can see how NELC’s compares.*  TW questioned if the current trend continues with schools becoming Academies how much of the EFA money is used to run Council administration.  DK advised that when all schools converted to academies the Council would be left with a DSG allocation of approximately £22m but would receive less than this as some money would be retained by the EFA in respect of per place funding to be paid direct to the relevant academies. There would be an obligation on the Council to provide and run services funded by the DSG (High Needs and Early Years).  DK advised the Council receives an allocation called the Education Services Grant and this equates to £15 per pupil per annum for all pupils in the borough. This is to fund statutory services.  GK stated we need to revisit how we do things in the Autumn Term.  JA – we are closer to Fairer Funding than most .  DK – a piece of work has been carried out for the funding for the f40 Group. These are 40 authorities most poorly funded. In this analysis we would lose DSG overall.  Recommendation  That this report be noted.  **2016-17 Schools Funding Formula**  *This was a verbal report outlining intelligence received to date in respect of the proposed funding for Schools for 2016-17.*  DK advised that as of yet no information had been received in respect of the 2016-17 Schools Funding Formula however this should start to come through late July and work will then commence.  **2014- 15 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Outturn position and Contingency Balance**  *The purpose of this report is to advise Schools Forum members on the 2014-15 DSG outturn position and overall contingency balance.*  DK provided an explanation on the outturn on each of the notional blocks. Schools Forum members accepted the position on the Schools Block and Early Years Block and noted the reasons and actions taken.  A fuller discussion took place on the High Needs Block particularly as this was the second year of underspend. DK advised that actions taken which would hopefully reduce the underspend for 2015-16. These included the re-allocation of the contingency and the opening of the ASD provision which had been scheduled to open in 2014-15.  It was agreed this would be discussed at the next meeting and on-going in line with the submission of the 2016-17 Schools Funding Formula.  Recommendation   * Schools Forum note the 2014-15 DSG outturn position * That officers report back in respect of the proposed usage of the contingency balance after the impact of the in-year cuts have been announced.   JA proposed to take this forward  This was seconded by GK  Members agreed unanimously to take this forward.  **School Meals Contract – Sam Swinburn**  *The purpose of this report is to provide the Schools Forum members with information and the latest position on the status of the re-procurement of school meals for participating primary maintained schools and academies.*  The indicative date for the award of the new contract is November 2015 with a planned date for contract commencement of Easter 2016. Correct procurement procedures are being followed and will hopefully be successful.  Schools Forum members discussed and concluded they were satisfied with the process being followed.  Recommendations  That this report be noted and Schools Forum members give any views they may have.  **Any other Business**  None  **Date and time of next meeting**  Wednesday 16th September 2015, 1.00 – 3.00  Wellington Suite, Tollbar Conference Centre | | | | |  |