



Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 9th December 2015

Lancaster Suite, Tollbar Conference Centre

Present: David Hampson (DH) (Chair) Phil Hutchinson (PH)
 Louise Wilson (LW) Chris Penszor (CP)
 George Krawiec (GKr) Cllr Ros James (RJ)
 Jane Aukett (JA) David Kirven (DK)
 Allie Majer (AM) Alex Allenby (AA)
 Carol Shaw (CS) Denise Faulconbridge (DF)
 Andy Zielinski (AZ) Roz Danks (RD)
 Kim Leach (KL) Kim Stevens (KS)
 Simon Overall (SO)
 Lorna Pendred (LP)

Apologies: Paul Cordy (PC), Trevor Wray (TW), Jean Mason (Unison)

		Action
68/15	<p>Minutes and matters arising of the meeting held on the 16th September 2015</p> <p>Minutes agreed as a true record – GK Seconded – AM</p> <p>Any Other Business GK had asked for the termination of the Serco Contract and Shared Services to be discussed. Serco Contract Update – exit plan in place Shared Services Update – an agreed structure is being developed, Schools Forum needs to be serviced by the Finance function but not clear at the moment who this will be. GK asked for further updates to be discussed at the next meeting – this was agreed.</p> <p>Membership Nursery Rep – Liz Jeffrey is happy to take over from Chris</p>	

	<p>Penszor, who is retiring.</p> <p>Secondary Rep – 2 people have expressed interest in the position, therefore voting slips will be circulated to schools and governors.</p>	
69/15	<p>Budget Settlement Update</p> <p>The LGA Budget Settlement Briefing Note was discussed.</p> <p><i>The Government will introduce the first ever national funding formula for schools, high needs and early years. A detailed consultation will be launched in 2016 and the new formulae will be implemented from 2017/18. There will be a transitional period to help smooth implementation.</i></p> <p>DK reported that the consultation will be for a period of 12 weeks, the Local Authority will respond but the Schools Forum may want to consider responding in its own right. It was suggested the Schools Forum Working Party may want to meet to discuss its response.</p> <p>Early Years Funding changes– more information will hopefully be available after the 18th December.</p> <p>GK thanked DK for providing detailed information and DH expressed concerns if this quality of information was not available in the future.</p>	
70/15	<p>Schools Funding Formula – 2016-17</p> <p>The deadline for the Final Proforma submission is the 21st January 2016. The SF Working Party agreed to meet on the 8th January to look at any changes and agree the final submission following the issuing of the revised data on the 10th December 2015.</p>	
71/15	<p>Schools Funding Formula – Centrally Retained and De-Delegated Expenditure decisions for 2016/17</p> <p><i>DfE regulations require Schools Forum, as part of the funding formula submission, to vote on the proposed recommendations of the Local Authority in respect of a number of centrally retained expenditure and delegated expenditure decisions. The purpose of this paper is to provide information to enable those members</i></p>	

eligible to vote and to assist in the voting process.

Eligible Forum members were asked to approve whether they support the central retention of funds for the following.

Centrally retained expenditure

Admissions	£217,559
Servicing of Schools Forum	£11,300
SEN Transport	£300,000
Termination of employment costs	£434,400

Members voted unanimously to support the above.

Items of Expenditure that can be de-delegated

It should be noted that these amounts are best estimates based on the information available for the October 2015 proforma submission. These require confirmation from the EFA and will be further reduced if there are further in year academy conversions

Schools in financial difficulties contingency/other	£65,183
Free school meals eligibility	£8,268
Support for ethnic minority pupils	£15,977
Behaviour support services	£47,620
TU Facilities Time	£13,708

The Local Authority recommended that in respect of the funding amounts for all of the above with the exception of Support for Ethnic Minority pupils that the funds were returned (de-delegated) back to the Local Authority to provide the service. In respect of Support for Ethnic Minority pupils the Local Authority recommended this funding was not de-delegated and was built into school budgets for them to purchase the service themselves..

Members voted unanimously to support the above.

72/15

High Needs Place Return

The purpose of this report is to advise School Forum Members of the commissioned places for specialist provision for the 2016-17 academic year.

	<p>GK declared his interest as he is a Governor at Seven Hills Academy.</p> <p>Recommendation</p> <p>There is no specific recommendation arising from the report and Schools Forum were asked to note the report.</p>	
73/15	<p>Secondary BAC – Use of claw-back funding</p> <p>A review has taken place and meetings held with all Secondary Academy Heads and Well Spring Academy Trust and information sent the all Secondary Principal, no objections to the changes have been received.</p> <p>Recommendation</p> <p>All Secondary Academy Principals support the request to Schools Forum for funding for specific roles as detailed in 2.5 of the Report to be paid to the Wellspring Trust from the SEN contingency. The funding to commence 1st January 2016 and to be in place, in the first instance, until 31st March 2017 pending review both of the service and any changes there may be in the move to a national funding formula recently announced by central government.</p> <p>JA proposed to take this forward This was seconded by SO Members agreed unanimously to take this forward</p>	
74/15	<p>Manual of Financial Guidance for NELC Schools</p> <p><i>The purpose of this report is to advise maintained school representatives of two EFA directed revisions to the Manual of Financial Guidance.</i></p> <p>The Manual was sent to all schools last year – an email advising of the changes will be sent to all schools as an addendum.</p> <p>Recommendation</p> <p>It is recommended that the changes be noted by the maintained representatives. No formal approval or voting is necessary as these are mandated changes.</p>	

75/15	EFA Papers & Consultations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2015 – NELC response submitted by the due deadline • Funding for School Admissions Appeals – NELC response submitted by the due deadline 	
76/15	Any other Business None	
77/15	Date and time of next meeting Wednesday 16th March 2016, 1.00 – 3.00, Wellington Suite, Tollbar Conference Centre	