



Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 6th July 2016

Lancaster Suite, Tollbar Conference Centre

Present: David Hampson (DH) (Chair) Denise Faulconbridge (DF)
 Wendy Jackson (WJ) Paul Cordy (PC)
 George Krawiec (GKr) David Paice (DP)
 Jane Aukett (JA) David Kirven (DK)
 Carol Shaw (CS) Alex Allenby (AA)
 Liz Jeffrey (LJ) Roz Danks (RD)
 Lorna Pendred (LP) Jacquie Jennissen-Green (JJG)
 Kim Leach (KL) Leigh McIntosh (LM) for item
 Simon Overall (SO) 15/16
 Phil Hutchinson (PH) Lisa Smith (LS) for item 18/16

Apologies: Trevor Wray, Andy Zielinski, Allie Majer, Cllr Ros James

		Action
13/16	Introductions and apologies David Paice, Interim Director of Education, Skills and Lifelong Learning, was introduced to the Forum. Apologies as above.	
14/16	Minutes and matters arising of the meeting held on 16th March 2016 Minutes agreed as a true record – GK, KL Action: PC agreed to send out information regarding the Peer Review with the minutes of this meeting	PC
	DK advised the EFA had not yet issued a report on how each LA had implemented its local formula for 2016-17 and as such he was unable to table a report at this Forum. This would be picked up at a later meeting.	DK
15/16	National Living Wage – Leigh McIntosh The National Living Wage has replaced the National Minimum	

	<p>Wage for those aged 25 and over. Introduced in April 2016 at £7.20 and rising to £9.00 by 2020.</p> <p>The Living Wage is defined as a wage that can meet the basic needs to maintain a safe, decent standard of living within the community.</p> <p>For further information and advice contact Leigh.mcintosh@nlbusinessconnect.co.uk or Sarah.smith@nlbusinessconnect.co.uk</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>Governing bodies to consider the introduction of the Living Wage within their schools.</p> <p>GK queried where the extra money would be coming from? DK – advised that schools receive funding through a Formula and hence there would be no additional money.</p> <p>16/16 2017 – 18 National Funding Formula Update</p> <p>High Needs Funding Formula and other reforms / Schools National Funding Formula - Government Consultation Stage 1</p> <p>The Schools Forum Working Party put together a response along with NELC. If Stage 2 comes out during the school break the Schools Forum Working Party will be called.</p> <p>17/16 2015 – 16 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Outturn position and Contingency Balance</p> <p><i>The purpose of this report is to advise School Forum members on the 2015 – 16 DSG outturn position and overall contingency balance.</i></p> <p>Outturn Position</p> <p>GK has concerns that as our DSG underspend may give the message that we don't need it, therefore we need to look how we distribute it. DK reported that the underspend is significantly down from the £3.6m underspend last year and that of this the Schools Block underspend is always fed back to schools. EY is now spending at net nil outturn and HN is tightening. DH queried if the underspend could be reduced in future years. DK reported that under the proposed new funding proposals the Schools Block will have to be fully allocated, and as such it may have to over allocated in future years.</p>	
--	---	--

	<p>Contingency Balance</p> <p>The amount of uncommitted central contingency is £2.680m which is £0.859m above the EFA recommended 5% balance. Officers believe it would be prudent to set aside £0.250m in respect of any calls for growth and falling rolls. Calls on this fund would only occur after those built into the Formula had been fully utilised. This would be reviewed on an on-going basis.</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>It is recommended that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools Forum note the 2015-16 DSG outturn position • Schools Forum agree to the set aside of £0.250m for potential growth / falling rolls <p>GK proposed that the decision be initially deferred until September once we know the funding position for 2017-18. JA seconded this proposal. Members voted unanimously to support the above.</p>	
18/16	<p>Community Play Development Workers – Lisa Smith</p> <p>In September 2014 a DSG application for £500k was accepted by the Forum to fund the work of 11 full time equivalent Family Hub Workers for the financial years 2015/16 and 2016/17. Lisa Smith presented a Progress Report which shows that by the end of Year 1 (March 2016), 48 of the 56 schools (86%) had referred into the DSG programme. The programme is currently funded until March 2017. Without this funding, the Council are unable to sustain this team through its own resources, therefore a request for an extension for at least a further year is being made.</p> <p>JA proposed that the Forum continue to fund the Family Hub work for a further year to a total of £250k. LP seconded this proposal. Members voted unanimously to support the above.</p>	
19/16	<p>BACs</p> <p>Forum members agreed that a meeting of the Schools Forum Funding Working Party be arranged once these papers have been to their respective Secondary / Primary Heads meetings and their feedback has been given. GK requested a report from the Secondary / Primary Heads stating they will abide to the conditions to take all children back into mainstream education.</p>	
20/16 21/16	<p>Any other business – none</p> <p>Date and time of next meeting</p> <p>Tuesday 13th September, 1pm, Lancaster Suite, Tollbar Conference Centre</p>	