



Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 9th December 2014
Wellington Suite, Tollbar Conference Centre

Present: Gillian Kendall (GKe) (Chair) Cllr Ros James (RJ)
 Chris Penzor (CP) Paul Cordy (PC)
 George Krawiec (GKr) Alex Allenby (AA)
 Simon Overal (SO) David Kirven (DK)
 Lorna Pendred (LP) Denise Faulconbridge (DF)
 Kim Leach (KL) Nigel Woodworth (NW)
 Leslie Collins (LC) Kim Stevens (Minutes)

In attendance: Cllr Sutton (observer)
 Jean Mason, Unison (observer)

Apologies: David Hampson (DH), Jane Aukett (JA), Trevor Wray (TW),
 Louise Wilson (LW), Karl Gabbittas (KG), Liz Shaw (LS)

		Action
33/14	<p>Minutes and matters arising of the meeting held on 17th September 2014</p> <p>23/14 Update on Schools Forum Vacancies There are 4 vacancies which need appointing to next term 2 Primary Academy Reps 1 Special School Rep 1 Alternative Provision Rep</p> <p>Further information and nomination forms will be sent out in January.</p> <p>It will also be necessary to appoint a vice chair of the Forum</p> <p>25/14 Post 16 High Needs Funding The LA have pulled together updated policies and procedures following comments received after the last Schools Forum meeting. Meeting to be held tomorrow and feedback will be given at the next meeting.</p>	

<p>34/14</p>	<p>Schools Funding Formula – 2015/16 Update</p> <p><i>The purpose of this report is to both update and advise members of the progress and next steps in finalising the 2015-16 Schools Funding Formula.</i></p> <p>Next Steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the impact of the Schools Census data for October 2014 on the formula • Discuss with the Schools Funding Working Party the impacts of the above • Obtain political approval • Submit the Final Proforma by the deadline date of the 20th January 2015 <p>Recommendations</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) The report is noted. b) That following assessment of the impact of the Schools Census data for October 2014 a further Working Party meeting is held to discuss any necessary changes prior to the submission of the Final Proforma by the 20th January 2015. <p>Members agreed unanimously to take this forward.</p>	
<p>35/14</p>	<p>Schools Funding Formula – Centrally Retained & De-Delegated Expenditure decisions for 2015 /16</p> <p><i>The purpose of this paper is to provide information to enable those members eligible to vote to determine the way they would like to vote.</i></p> <p>Eligible Forum members were asked to approve whether they support the central retention of funds for the provision of the following services. This funding will be top sliced from the DSG.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admissions - £217,559 • Servicing of Schools Forum - £11,300 • Termination of Employment Costs - £434,400 (to part fund pre 1998 pension payments) • SEN Transport costs - £300,000 	

	<p>Eligible Forum members in respect of the maintained school sector were asked to vote whether they wish to de-delegate the following items of expenditure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools in financial difficulties contingency - £58,375 • Other contingency - £31,788 • Free school meals eligibility - £11,437 • Support the ethnic minority pupils - £22,100 • Behaviour support services - £65,869 • TU facilities time - £18,961 <p>Eligible members agreed to take this forward</p>	
36/14	<p>SEN Working Party Update</p> <p>GKr took over the chair at this point as GKc declared an interest in this item.</p> <p>DF gave the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Banding exercise – this is now complete and agreed Banding Descriptors have been circulated to all schools • Additional work had emerged out of the Banding Descriptor exercise and with the support of Cambridge Park, examples of the descriptors are being developed to support schools in their identification. • ASD Provision update – a paper was discussed and the Forum agreed the recommendation of the SEN Funding Working Party • Alternative Provision and Pupil Referral Unit – a paper was discussed which outlined current options in respect of the delivery of Alternative Provision, and the demand for Alternative Provision. <p>The recommendations of the SEN Funding Working Party were all accepted by the Forum</p>	
37/14	<p>Manual of Financial Guidance for NELC Schools</p> <p><i>The purpose of this report is to seek maintained schools representatives of the schools forum approval for the above.</i></p> <p>Recommendation</p> <p>It is recommended that the Manual of Financial Guidance for NELC Schools be approved.</p> <p>Members agreed to take this forward.</p>	

38/14	<p>Early Years Hourly Rates</p> <p><i>At the Schools Forum meeting of the 25th June 2014 a request was made that officers review the early years hourly rates and ascertain whether there is scope to increase some or all of these. The purpose of this report is to advise the Schools Forum of progress to date.</i></p> <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) That the report is noted b) That the principles listed in Section 5 be approved c) That a further report be brought to the next Forum detailing the increase in rates following further work and announcement of the DSG settlement in December d) That the funding of Early Years children with SEN be considered by the SEN Working Party. <p>Members were happy to adopt these principles.</p> <p>Further report to come to the next Forum once the Working Party have agreed a cost that is affordable.</p> <p>GKr commented that until the amounts are available it is hard to know if gaps can be reduced.</p>	
39/14	<p>EFA Papers & Consultations</p> <p>Schools and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2014</p> <p>For information only NELC response submitted by the due deadline.</p>	
40/14	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>None</p> <p>This will be Gillian Kendall's last meeting due to her impending retirement, GKr thanked her, on behalf of the Forum for all her work with the Forum and education in the area and added that Gillian will be sadly missed.</p>	
41/14	<p>Date and time of next meeting:</p> <p>Tuesday 17th March 2015, 1.00 – 3.00</p> <p>Wellington Suite, Tollbar Conference Centre</p>	