



Meeting held on Wednesday 6th July 2022

Bremerhaven Room, Grimsby Town Hall

Minutes

	<p>Attendees</p> <p>George Krawiec (GK) (Chair), Lorna Pendred (LP), Kim Leach (KL), Allie Majer (AM), Sally Jack (SJ) (NELC), Dave Kirven (DK) (NELC), Alex Allenby (NELC), Phil Hutchinson (PH), Rebecca Taylor (RT) (NELC), Cllr Margaret Cracknell (Cllr C), Karen Linton (KL) (NELC), Kim Stevens (KS) Minutes</p>
15/22	<p>Introductions and Apologies</p> <p>Carol Shaw, Jo North, Carrienne Robson, Andy Zielinski, Mark Wood, Jane Aukett, Ann Hardy, Jayne Perry</p> <p>GK welcomed all to the Forum. The meeting was not quorate, but it was decided to continue with the meeting as no decisions were required to be made on items to be discussed.</p>
16/22	<p>Minutes and matters arising of the meeting held on 16th March 2022</p> <p>Minutes agreed as an accurate record</p> <p>11/22 – LP requested that the wording under recommendations be amended with the paragraph making reference to the impact of the 1% reduction being removed – action completed.</p>
17/22	<p>2021-22 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) outturn position and Contingency Balance</p> <p>The purpose of this report is to advise School Forum members of the 2021-22 DSG outturn and overall contingency balance.</p> <p>DK explained the process. The High Needs Block is overspent by £0.828m. This is slightly over the predicted overspend of £0.757 forecast at the start of the financial year when the budget was set. The reasons for the overspend were discussed.</p>

	<p>Top Up funding Schools (£0.581m) – SJ reported that by 2026 EHCPs were likely to reach over 2,000 therefore there is a need to work more closely with schools to keep children in school and the possibility of a top slice of the school’s budgets remains a possibility.</p> <p>Bursar Educational Facility £0.248m – saving as facility usage not progressed in 2021-22</p> <p>Contingency Balance as of 31st March 2022 – overspend of £1.533m on the DSG contingency. GK commented that the working party must continue to push for a facility in borough which would help reduce the overspend of £0.432m for agency placements and the spend on agency placements overall. There is a need to ensure all Trusts in the Borough do their duty re inclusivity. SJ reported that a summit is being arranged with the Chief Executives of all Academies during the Autumn Term</p> <p>Action: GK to be invited to the Summit being arranged during the Autumn Term</p> <p>PH commented that one Multi Academy Trust accounts for 50% of all exclusions this comment led to further discussion on the issues. GK queried whether permanent inclusions have risen – SJ reported that this was the case and will be discussing this issue with that particular trust and will discuss as part of the agenda with the new DfE lead Kat Lynch at a meeting being held on the 20th of July.</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>It is recommended that Schools Forum note the 2021-22 DSG outturn position.</p> <p>It is also recommended that in view of the worsening cumulative financial position and the Council’s involvement in the Delivering Better Value programme the Schools Forum High Needs Working Party continue to meet to develop further options and progress these as quickly as possible to manage the deficit position over the short term and achieve a sustainable balanced DSG financial position going forward.</p> <p>The recommendations were agreed.</p>
18/22	<p>DfE – Delivering Better Value / Deficit Management Plan</p> <p>The purpose of this report is to provide an overview to School Forum members of the DfE Delivering Better Value Programme (DBV) and the Deficit Management Plan.</p>

	<p>DfE – Delivering Better Value</p> <p>The Council has been advised that it has been accepted on to the DfE Delivering Better Value Programme and have been placed in Tranche1.</p> <p>There is £85 million funding available for DBV and each LA’s funding allocation will be determined by the action plan produced during the diagnostic phase up to an upper limit. Depending on the action plans, some LAs will get more, and some will get less.</p> <p>DSG Deficit Management Plan</p> <p>The DfE have produced a template for completion from which conclusions should be able to be drawn and an action plan pulled together. The spreadsheet is a workbook of nineteen tabs which requests information, both historic and projected in several areas.</p> <p>A meeting was held this week with Chief Executives and Section 151 Officers to introduce the delivery partnership of Newton and CIPFA.</p> <p>Action: SJ to circulate the presentation given at the above meeting</p> <p>The Deficit Management Plan will be discussed with the Forum, for comment and ideally buy in before being submitted.</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <p>It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools Forum note the above • That the Schools Forum High Needs Working Party continue to meet and are updated on the document, and • This item is discussed more fully at the School’s Forum meeting in September <p>Action: Meeting of the Working Party to be held early September</p>
19/22	<p>Schools Forum High Needs Working Party Update</p> <p>SJ updated that the Free School Bid has to be submitted by the 11th July, this is for a 100 place secondary SEM provision which may be extended to 150 and locations for this are being explored. There has been lots of interest from the DfE School Commissioner.</p> <p>RT updated that new primary schools are to be built in Scartho and Waltham and will include resource for special provision. Littlecoates provision with Well Springs is on track to open on the 1st January. Some of the movement</p>

	<p>of children is allowing space in other schools for provision for those with additional needs. Funding to make alterations is available and individual conversations are being held with heads as they all have different space available and revenue costs. AM commented that there needs to be a map of where these spaces are to ensure places are spread out.</p> <p>High Needs Funding went to Cabinet some time ago, SJ suggested this may need a refresh, Cllr C agreed this was a good idea.</p>
<p>20/22</p>	<p>Consultations</p> <p>Department for Education – Implementing the direct national funding formula</p> <p>Implementing the direct national funding formula - government consultation (education.gov.uk)</p> <p>DK gave a brief overview of the attached – the consultation closes on the 9th September 2022 and the results of the consultation and the Department’s response will be published on GOV.UK in autumn 2022. DK reported that we will be responding as an Authority, but members can respond separately. GK is happy to work on the response with DK, Cllr C and SJ to show the Forum are being active.</p> <p>Early Years Consultations – the consultations close on the 16th September</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Care Regulatory Ratio • Early Years Funding Formula <p>Action: LP and GK to be included in both responses.</p>
<p>21/22</p>	<p>Any other business</p> <p>DfE – Infant school meals and Holiday Activities and Food Programme announcement – this will continue throughout the Summer</p> <p>Recovery Premium – now confirmed for 2 years</p> <p>Schools Led Tutoring Grant Return – schools required to complete on-line in September – KL confirmed that this has been started</p> <p>LP requested an inclusion discussion at a future meeting to look at a mapping exercise re overlaps in services, funding, paperwork etc and how this may work better. This was agreed</p> <p>Forum Membership – DK advised that Jayne Perry had contacted him to advise she would be standing down from the Forum. There were now a number of vacancies and he advised that in September the LA would do the following:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Email the academy schools to seek further reps. There is currently 1 secondary school rep and 3 primary school reps vacancies. • Email the new heads of the two Special Schools asking if they could advise who would be acting as the rep, and • Email the post 16 reps to get clarity as to who was the rep(s).
22/22	<p>Date and time of next meeting: Tuesday 13th September 2022, 3.00 – 4.30, Bremerhaven Room, Grimsby Town Hall</p> <p>Items for discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2023-24 Schools Funding Formula Update