



**Meeting held at 1pm on Tuesday 21st November 2023 Council Chamber,
Grimsby Town Hall**

Minutes

Attendees	
	<p>Sarah Bate (SB); Richard Gargon (RG); Steve Kernan (SK); Jane Aukett (JA); Ann-Marie Wilson (AW); Jo Indian (JI); Gemma Rylatt (GR); Alex Allenby (AA); Liz Brummer (LB); Wendy Jackson (WJ); Cllr. Margaret Cracknell (MC); Rebecca Taylor (RT); Karen Linton (KL)</p>
25/23	<p>Welcome, introductions and apologies.</p> <p>Apologies were received from: Janice Spencer (JS); Sally Jack (SJ); Carianne Robson (CR); Lorna Pendred (LP); Emily Powell (EP)</p> <p>JA in the Chair for this meeting.</p>
26/23	<p>Constitutional Procedures – election of a Chair and Vice Chair</p> <p>Election of a Chair and Vice-Chair deferred until the next meeting to be held on 16th January 2024</p>
27/23	<p>Minutes of Previous Meeting / Matters Arising of the meeting held on 19th September 2023</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 19th September 2023 were agreed as a true record.</p> <p>There were no matters arising from the minutes.</p>
28/23	<p>National Wraparound Childcare Programme (WCP)</p> <p>WJ gave a verbal presentation on the new national wraparound childcare programme which is aimed at creating wraparound childcare for primary aged children between the hours of 8 am and 6 pm, term time only. The LA has been awarded £1.1 million grant funding to support the start up delivery costs of the programme.</p> <p>A report on the WCP will go to the Cabinet meeting and Children and Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Panel in January 2024.</p> <p>A steering group and working party will be required to drive forward this workstream. More information will be presented to forum as it becomes available, and a request for volunteers to join the steering group will be circulated to schools and other providers.</p> <p>SB enquired if the WCP was just for children from reception age and above. WJ confirmed this to be correct.</p>

	<p>Resolved: that forum notes the verbal update.</p>
29/23	<p>Schools National Funding Formula 2024-25</p> <p>LB gave a detailed presentation on the schools' national funding formula 2024/25 using the latest schools block allocation following the revision by central government.</p> <p>RT provided further detail about the mitigating actions for the High Needs Block projected overspend and on-going pressures. Members noted the proposals in line with Delivering Better Value Programme. Schools Forum to be kept updated and informed of the position and progression of the impact of the proposals.</p> <p>Resolved: that forum notes the report.</p>
30/23	<p>Consultation Presentation & Centrally Retained and De-delegation Report</p> <p>LB talked through the report and asked members to vote on each item of centrally retained expenditure under consideration as detailed in the report: Admissions Servicing of Schools Forum Termination of Employment Costs ESG Retained Rate</p> <p>LB asked forum to note that Secretary of State licences were £136,000.</p> <p>JA enquired if forum did not agree to the centrally retained expenditure, would schools have to make a contribution. LB confirmed that schools would have to contribute.</p> <p>RG enquired if the Termination of Employment Costs expenditure included special schools. AA confirmed that it included any teacher pre-1998.</p> <p>Resolved: schools forum members voted line by line and agreed to accept the centrally retained expenditure recommendations; none were against.</p> <p>LB presented information regarding the de-delegated items; however a decision was deferred as primary maintained representative was not in attendance. This decision will be discussed amongst all maintained primary heads and will be voted on outside of this meeting. This will be updated at the next meeting.</p>
31/23	<p>National Funding Formula, volunteers requested for a NFF working party</p> <p>LB asked for volunteers to form a NFF working party. AW, RG and SK volunteered to be members of the NFF working party.</p> <p>Action: LB to email specific members of forum who were not present regarding volunteering for the NFF working party.</p>
32/23	<p>Report on High Needs Place Return</p> <p>RT talked through the High Needs Place Return report.</p>

	<p>JA enquired if there was much provision needed out of area. RT responded that there was provision locally and out of area - both come at significant cost, hence the need for Resource Based Provision (RBP) within mainstream education settings to reduce these costs.</p> <p>JA enquired how rapidly are we reducing the costs on placements. RT responded that it would take between 5 – 10 years to achieve sustainability and the plan is currently 'spend to save' in the longer term. JA noted that the high needs spend is increasing rapidly. RT responded that RBP will be increased over the next 18-24 months and that there will be a programme around capital investment and wider workforce development needs. RT acknowledges that funding is a national issue. SK added that it was vital to invest in where we are now to have a more sustainable provision and more challenge should be given to mainstream settings in a measured approach. Conversations around children going into specialist provision are changing. Financial factors around decision making would need to be considered.</p> <p>JA discussed the challenges faced in mainstream schools in trying to meet the needs of children. SK responded that induction and training for staff are a solution. RG added that investment is needed and is the key to improvement and to build sustainability. There is a real pressure on mainstream schools.</p> <p>JA enquired about working in collaboration. RG responded that collaboration is happening, and he is working with the Delivering Better Value in SEND (DVB) team. RG suggested that secondary school settings might be more open to change if investment were there. RT responded that funding is not always the answer, and a stepped approach is required. Preventable work needs to happen first, and also RBPs can support this work. All 60 settings are currently undertaking their DBV SEND audits. These are generating some conversations with Trust leaders and the audits have been helpful in Trusts coming forwards. RG responded that inclusion needs to be a very personalised approach and that Trust leaders needed to understand this. RT added that SEND is not just a school issue: it involves health, social care etc. and must be on other agendas too.</p> <p>Resolved: that forum notes the report.</p>
33/23	<p>Any other business</p> <p>RT discussed the DSG management plan which details all figures for the last and the next 5 years.</p> <p>Action: RT to email the DSG management plan to members and will take feedback via email or at the next meeting.</p>
34/23	<p>Date and time of next meeting</p> <p>Tuesday 16th January at 1 pm, Lincoln Suite, Town Hall, Grimsby</p>