



Schools Forum minutes

Minutes of the meeting of the Schools Forum held on Tuesday 17 January 2023 in Via MS Teams - Virtual, commencing at 1.45 pm and concluding at 3.10 pm.

Members present

Ms J Antrobus, Mrs G Bull, Ms R Chapman, Ms J Freeman, Mr A Gillespie, Ms C Glasgow, Mr E Hillyard, Ms N Lovegrove, Mrs J Male, Mr R Peters, Ms J Robertson, Mrs D Rutley, Mr K Shabbir, Mr A Sherwell, Ms F Smalley, Mrs E Stewart, Mr B Taylor, Ms S Bayliss, Ms C Beavers, Mr J Carter, Mr G Drawmer and Ms E Williams.

Agenda Item

1 Election of Chairman

Mr G Drawmer opened the meeting and advised the forum was still without a Chairman, he handed over to Ms Beavers to advise of the process.

The four nominations for Chairman received were for:

Ms J Cochrane
Ms G Bull
Ms J Freeman
Mr A Gillespie

Ms C Beavers advised as 2 of the 4 nominees had sent apologies for the meeting that it had been agreed that a conversation would take place offline to decide on a Chairman. Ms G Bull agreed to Chair the meeting in absence of a permanent Chairman.

Action	Deadline	To Be Actioned By
To send out an email to the 4 nominees to decide on a Schools Forum Chairman.	ASAP	Ms C Beavers

2 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from:

Cllr A Cranmer- Buckinghamshire Council
Mr S James- Buckinghamshire Council
Ms J Cochrane- Sir Henry Floyd Grammar School
Ms J Pearce- Waterside Primary Academy
Ms S Barcock-Wood- National Education Union
Mrs J Freeman – King’s Wood School

3 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 06 December 2022 were **AGREED** as an accurate record.

The actions from the meeting held on 06 December 2022 were reviewed and **AGREED** as completed or carried forward.

Action	Deadline	To be Completed By
Amend typos as agreed.	ASAP	Ms C Beevers

5 Revenue Budget Monitoring 2022-23

Ms E Williams, Head of Finance (Children’s Services)- Buckinghamshire Council gave an overview of the report provided.

Recommendations:

Schools Forum is asked to note the revenue budget monitoring forecast at the end of December 2022 (Period 9).

Resolved:

Schools Forum **NOTED** the revenue budget monitoring forecast at the end of December 2022 (Period 9).

6 School Budget Proposals 2023-24

Ms E Williams, Head of Finance (Children’s Services)- Buckinghamshire Council gave an overview of the report provided.

DSG Allocation 2023-24

Recommendations:

- a) To recommend that Buckinghamshire Council sets the overall Dedicated Schools Budget at £579.4m in line with the funding allocation announced on 16th December 2022.

- b) To recommend that the Mainstream Schools Additional Grant announced by the Department for Education (DfE) are allocated to the School's Budget in accordance with the conditions of grant (final school level allocations to be confirmed in spring 2023).

Resolved:

- a) Schools Forum **RECOMMENDED** that Buckinghamshire Council sets the overall Dedicated Schools Budget at £579.4m in line with the funding allocation announced on 16th December 2022.
- b) Schools Forum **RECOMMENDED** that the Mainstream Schools Additional Grant announced by the Department for Education (DfE) are allocated to the School's Budget in accordance with the conditions of grant (final school level allocations to be confirmed in spring 2023).

Section A

Recommendations:

- a) To agree the allocation of funding to mainstream schools based on the local funding formula for schools agreed in December 2022, updated for the October 2022 census data.
- b) To agree that the cost of the Minimum Funding Guarantee should be funded through the capping of gains.
- c) To confirm the criteria for the Growth Fund in 2023-24.

Resolved:

- a) Schools Forum **AGREED** the allocation of funding to mainstream schools based on the local funding formula for schools agreed in December 2022, updated for the October 2022 census data.
- b) Schools Forum **AGREED** that the cost of the Minimum Funding Guarantee should be funded through the capping of gains.
- c) Schools Forum **CONFIRMED** the criteria for the Growth Fund in 2023-24.

Section B

Recommendations:

- a) To agree the Central Schools Service Block budgets for 2023-24 as detailed in Appendix 5.

Resolved:

- a) Schools Forum **AGREED** the Central Schools Service Block budgets for 2023-24 as detailed in Appendix 5.

Section C

Recommendations:

- a) To agree the budget for the High Needs Block in 2023-24 to be set at £123.5m and that further discussions to consider the potential shortfall in the high needs budget are held with the DSG Expenditure Review Group prior to the next Schools Forum meeting.

Resolved:

- a) Schools Forum **AGREED** the budget for the High Needs Block in 2023-24 to be set at £123.5m and that further discussions to consider the potential shortfall in the high needs budget are held with the DSG Expenditure Review Group prior to the next Schools Forum meeting.

Section D

Recommendations:

- a) To agree the Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF) for 2023-24 as detailed in Option 4 in Appendix 6 of the report.

Resolved:

- a) Schools Forum **AGREED** the Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF) for 2023-24 as detailed in Option 4 in Appendix 6 of the report.

7 AOB

There were no items of AOB.

8 Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 21 March 2023- 1.30pm

The Oculus, The Gateway, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP19 8FF