

Public Document Pack

Schools Forum

Wednesday, 25th June, 2014
at 3.45 pm

PLEASE NOTE TIME OF MEETING

**FAIRISLE JUNIOR SCHOOL, FAIRISLE ROAD,
SOUTHAMPTON, SO16 8BY**

This meeting is open to the public

LEAD OFFICER

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AGENDA

Agendas and papers are now available via the City Council's website

1 APOLOGIES AND CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP (IF ANY)

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with the Localism Act 2011, and the Council's Code of Conduct, Members to disclose any personal or pecuniary interests in any matter included on the agenda for this meeting.

NOTE: Members are reminded that, where applicable, they must complete the appropriate form recording details of any such interests and hand it to the Democratic Support Officer.

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on 12th March 2014, attached.

4 SCHOOLS FORUM MEETING DATES FOR THE 2014/2015 MUNICIPAL YEAR

Schedule of Schools Forum meeting dates for the 2014/2015 Municipal Year, attached.

5 FAIRER SCHOOLS FUNDING 2015/2016

Briefing paper of the Principal Accountant, Education providing details of the interim Fairer Schools Funding proposals for 2015/2016, attached.

6 SCHOOL BALANCES 2013/2014

Briefing paper of the Principal Accountant, Education, providing details of the Revenue and Capital balances held by schools at the end of 2013/2014, attached.

7 DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT - SAVINGS PROPOSALS 2015/2016

Briefing paper of the Finance Manager, providing details of proposed savings targets over the next two years and requesting the views of Forum members on which savings should be supported, attached.

8 USE OF INTERVENTION FUND 2013/2014

Briefing paper of the Principal Accountant, Education, providing details on how the 2013/2014 Intervention Fund has been used, attached.

19th JUNE 2014

HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

Agenda Item 3

**SCHOOLS FORUM
NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 12th MARCH 2014
LUDLOW INFANT ACADEMY**

Present:

Primary School

Peter Howard	-	Headteacher
John Draper	-	Headteacher
Amanda Talbot-Jones	-	Headteacher
Liz Mizon	-	Governor
Julie Swanston	-	Headteacher

Secondary Schools

Richard Harris	-	Governor
Ruth Evans	-	Headteacher
Graham Wilson	-	Headteacher

Academies

Anne Murphy	-	St Anne's Convent School
Jeannie Gibbons	-	Ludlow Infant School
David Turner	-	Townhill Infant School

Pupil Referral Unit

Jane Smith	-	Headteacher
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Nursery

Karen Stacey	-	Headteacher
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Non Schools

Peter Sopowski	-	NUT Secretary
Alice Wrighton	-	Post 16 – Richard Taunton 6 th Form College
Councillor Paffey	-	SCC Councillor

Also in attendance:

Councillor Jeffery	-	Cabinet Member for Education and Change
Graham Talbot	-	SCC - People
Theresa Leavy	-	SCC - People
Sue Thompson	-	Observer – EYCP
Lynn Franklin	-	SCC - Finance
Sue Poynter	-	SCC - Finance
Jason Taylor	-	SCC
Freddie Collins	-	SCC
Delia Cuertis	-	Inspire Academy - Observer
Steph Smith	-	Community Language Trust
Sarwar Jamil	-	Community Language Trust
Kulvinder Lakhpuri	-	Community Language Trust
Councillor Turner	-	Observer
Sharon Pearson	-	SCC - Democratic Services

1. **APOLOGIES AND CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP (IF ANY)**

Apologies were received from Colin Warburg, Anna Wright, Mark Sheehan, Karen Dagwell and Andy Evans.

The following were welcomed:

Councillor Jeffery, the new Cabinet Member for Education and Change, Steph Smith, Sarwar Jamil and Kulvinder Lakhpuri from the Community Language Trust and Delia Cuertis from the new Inspire Enterprise Academy in Southampton who was observing.

Members passed a vote of thanks to Jeannie Gibbons who had very kindly provided the venue and refreshments for the meeting.

Members noted that the meeting scheduled for 30th April was cancelled as there was no business to discuss and therefore the next meeting was 25th June. Peter Howard, Fairisle Junior School very kindly agreed to host this meeting which would commence at 3.45 to facilitate parking for members.

2. **NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th January 2014 were approved as a correct record.

3. **SPECIAL SCHOOLS AND UNIT PROVISION 2014/15**

The Forum received and noted a briefing paper of the Principal Accountant, Children's Services detailing the proposals for the funding for Special Schools, units in Maintained Schools and Pupil Referral Units (PRUs) from April 2014.

The following was noted:-

- that the local authority had identified, based on current profile, the number of places required at the Special Schools, Special Free Schools and special units and that Great Oaks Special School would be expanded by 17 places in September 2014;
- Special Schools, Special Free Schools and Maintained Schools with a special unit would be funded on the basis of a flat £10000 per place plus a pupil top-up fund on the **actual numbers** of pupils in the school; 2013/14 was the first year of this basis of funding. Bandings for 2014/15 had been adjusted based on 2013/14 actual numbers.
- top-up funding per pupil would be paid on the basis of three place types, Band 1, 2 and 3; this varies from school to school mainly. Costs were higher per pupil for smaller schools and this was reflected in banding rates. If schools were funded at the same rate small schools would receive much less funding than the larger schools;
- that a vacancy factor would be operated to increase a school's top-up funding to compensate for low numbers in the Autumn term;
- outreach funding to be investigated as present funding was not sustainable and there was no outreach funding for secondary behavioural issues;
- any child transferred from one school to another would be transferred on the

- same band; and
- that further work would be undertaken by officers on the 2015/16 formula to ensure that top up funding was allocated on a fair and transparent basis between schools and that a further report would be submitted on these issues in Autumn 2014.

4. **ALTERNATIVE LEARNING PROVISION – THE COMPASS SCHOOL**

The Forum received and noted a briefing paper of the Principal Accountant, Children’s Services, outlining how placements would be commissioned at The Compass School (ALP) 2014/15.

The following was noted:-

- that 15 places for the KS1-2 provision for Primary – Band 1 was not enough;
- Primary Schools were paying more on a pro rata basis than secondary schools compared to the amount of funding received within the schools budget share per pupil; and
- that the statementing process caused place blocking which was slowing down the ability to move children on.

5. **CHILDREN’S TRANSFORMATION**

The Forum received a verbal presentation from the Interim Head of Service providing more information on how the Preventative Social Care Workers budget (£200,000) and Family and Parenting Team budget (£426,800) fitted into the Transformation Programme and the MASH and how this service would be available in a different format.

The following was noted:-

- present challenges included gaps in and duplication of services;
- the change programme currently underway will mainstream the “Families Matter” programme into the new Early Help Team. Alongside a raft of other structural and service changes, including a MASH (multi-agency safeguarding hub), specialist teams of social workers, improved quality assurance and the new Early Help team would shift the focus and culture towards earlier interventions and a co-ordinated family service;
- the Early Help team would further expand the multi-agency working to include social workers, education welfare officers, school nurses and health visitors (for under 4’s);
- the new integrated model would strengthen safeguarding, increase health and social work expertise directly in the team and enable closer working between tiers of support, ensuring continuity of the programme while shifting towards earlier interventions;
- each family would have 1 lead practitioner which would ensure that there would be up to date and continuity of data on each family/child involved;
- structure charts would be published in the very near future and MASH would be live on 31 March 2014; and
- a further report/presentation would be submitted towards the end of the year,

providing information on how the programme was working.

6. **COMMUNITY LANGUAGE TRUST**

The Forum received a presentation from Steph Smith, Sarwar Jamil and Kulvinder Lakhpuri from the Community Language Trust providing information on the services that the Trust provided and requesting assistance and/or advice on how to continue this service.

The following was noted:-

- the service had been established in 1991, jointly funded by Southampton, Hampshire and Portsmouth Councils;
- this was not a statutory service and unfortunately due to funding cuts experienced by local councils, the service would only be supported until July 2014 ;
- that the service was a community lead organisation which had been created to safeguard the community language classes and taught more than 1300 children in 17 different languages;
- in Southampton, children from 33 primary, secondary , academies and colleges attended community language classes and on average every year, more than 50 students from Southampton schools and colleges passed GCSE, AS and A level examination in community language subjects;
- many studies since 1980 supported the positive effects of the maintenance of community languages and suggested learning their first language not only enhanced children's cognitive development, but also helped in the acquisition of a second language;
- families could not teach to GCSE standard, there was no mainstream provision and no provision for private tuition;
- in the absence of the Council's financial support, schools may be able to "rescue the community language classes" as they were safe, had a congenial environment and good equipment, were not aligned to any specific group or community and public liability insurance was provided by the Council.

It was AGREED that :-

- contact details of the Community Languages Trust would be provided to all Forum members; and
- that the request for assistance would be raised at the next Secondary Heads' Conference.

7. **ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMME FOR SCC SCHOOLS**

The Forum received a briefing paper from the Project Coordinator, Sustainability, detailing a programme to increase the energy efficiency of the schools estate by capitalising on the Salix financing scheme, which would be managed by the Council with the aim of accelerating the reduction of school energy bills.

The following was noted:-

- an audit had been undertaken of 26 schools and they would be individually contacted over the next two months and advised as to what the potential savings would be and the size of the corresponding loan required ;
- the annual savings of the project were required to equal or exceed the yearly payment of the loan so there would be no overall impact on the finances of the school over the period of the loan;
- the Secretary of State had given permission that Academies could take part in this scheme;
- the Council was in a position to provide this service at a lower cost than the commercial sector and the overall cost of managing the programme would be incorporated within the loan; and
- officers would ensure that there would be no disruption to schools during the implementation process.

It was AGREED that officers would provide members with a list of schools audited and who would be contacted over the next two months as part of phase 1 of the programme.

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SCHOOLS FORUM MEETING DATES 2014/2015

**Detailed below find the proposed list of meeting dates for the
2014/2015 Municipal Year.**

All meetings will commence at 3.30

10th September 2014

22nd October 2014

14th January 2015

11th March 2015

29th April 2015 (Provisional)

24th June 2015

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BRIEFING PAPER

SUBJECT: FAIRER SCHOOLS FUNDING 2015/16
DATE: 25TH JUNE 2015
RECIPIENT: SCHOOLS FORUM

THIS IS NOT A DECISION PAPER**SUMMARY:**

The DfE has advised local authorities that they intend to postpone the introduction of a national funding formula and that this will not be implemented in 2015/16 as originally intended. This paper looks at the interim funding proposals for 2015/16.

RECOMMENDATION:

- (i) Note the proposals;
- (ii) Note that a further paper will be brought the Schools Forum to discuss options for aligning the current SCC funding levels to those minimum funding levels proposed by the DfE for 2015/16.

REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. At the current time a national funding formula for schools has been postponed. In the interim proposals have been consulted on regarding the setting of minimum funding levels to ensure that all local authorities should attract for it's pupils and schools in 2015/16. It will be necessary to review the current SCC funding levels and consider where those funding levels should be reviewed to align to the 2015/16 national minimum funding levels.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

2. The current SCC funding levels could remain unchanged for 2015/16 however it would be prudent to review these now and consider where issues may arise in the future when the national funding formula is implemented.

BACKGROUND and BRIEFING DETAILS:

3. The Department for Education originally proposed to introduce a national funding formula from 2015/16 to ensure that minimum funding levels are applied across all local authorities. Although it is the intention to work towards a national funding formula, this will be done at a later date once the Government has set spending plans over a longer period of time. It is envisaged that this will allow more certainty about how the national funding formula will affect schools and local authorities over a number of years.
4. Changes implemented in 2013/14 to the funding formula will continue into 2014/15. These changes have made a significant move towards funding being allocated based on the needs of pupils. In 2013/14 approximately 90% of funding nationally was allocated based on the needs of pupils (89% SCC).

5. The Government has made a commitment to fund all local authorities at the same cash level per pupil in 2015/16 as provided in 2014/15. In addition to this it also proposes to allocate a further £350m to fund schools in the least fairly funded authorities. It is important to note that no local authority or school will receive less funding as a result of this proposal. The proposal only relates to 2015/16.
6. The DfE issued a consultation document in March 2014 seeking views on the following:
 - how to set these minimum funding levels;
 - how to distribute the additional £350 million funding;
 - whether small changes to the operation of the sparsity factor would be helpful.
7. The DfE proposes to allocate the additional funding by setting minimum funding levels that each local authority should attract for its pupils and schools in 2015/16. If a local authority already attracts at least these minimum funding levels, then there will be no change to the amount of funding per pupil that it receives. For those local authorities that attract less than these minimum funding levels, their budget will be increased to meet those levels.
8. It should be noted that a calculation has been undertaken by the DfE for each local authority to give an indicative Minimum Funding Level (MFL) calculation. This calculation applies to each of the minimum funding factors to SCC pupil information. SCC currently receives £888,438 more in DSG funding than the new minimum funding levels. This sum will not be recovered by the DfE.
9. The proposal is to set a minimum funding level for 5 pupil characteristics:
 - A per pupil amount (age weighted pupil unit);
 - Pupils who are from deprived backgrounds;
 - Pupils who are looked after;
 - Pupils who have low attainment prior to starting at either their primary or secondary school; and
 - Pupils who speak English as an additional language.
10. It is also proposed to set minimum funding level for 2 school characteristics:
 - A lump sum payment per school; and
 - Sparsity sum for small schools that are essential to serving rural areas.
11. These characteristics already form part of the available 'factors' that local authorities can include in setting their local funding formula. SCC applies all these factors with the exception of a Sparsity Factor which is not relevant to city based schools.
12. The proposal is to set the funding levels based on the average rate per pupil that local authorities allocate to these characteristics in the local formulae at present. 75% of the £350m will be needed to meet the average per pupil amount with the remaining 25% being used to support the other factors.
13. It should be noted that for some local authorities who are in areas with higher salaries, the minimum funding levels will be increased using a hybrid area cost adjustment (ACA). The calculation has two elements; a teachers' pay element and a non-teaching staff element.

14. Southampton falls within the Rest of England banding and therefore receives no adjustment for the teachers' pay element however does have a calculated adjustment of 1.0512 for the Non Teaching Staff element. This gives a Hybrid ACA of 1.0140.
15. SCC issued a formal response to the proposals. This is detailed below:

How to set these minimum funding levels?

The current proposal is to use the average of all local authorities for each of the characteristics suggested. However, this is not reflective of how local authorities choose to weight rates applied to local priorities i.e. SCC applies significant amounts via deprivation rates and adopts a lower per pupil amount. Should there be some analysis/weighting to look at proportion of overall funding for each local authority applied to each of the factors?

How to distribute the additional £350 million funding?

It would seem appropriate to allocate the £350m to move the current allocation of funding towards a national funding formula. However, further clarification on the general principles of any future national funding formula are required before a view can be given on whether this is a reasonable allocation of funding. For example, how will local priorities be addressed and managed through a national funding formula? Although it is clearly stated that this proposal is for 2015/16 only, any mechanism adopted to allocating the £350m should be a step towards the ultimate funding mechanism.

Whether small changes to the operation of the sparsity factor would be helpful?

Not relevant – No view.

16. Initial feedback on the consultation process has shown that:
 - 90% agreed that the current school funding system is unfair;
 - 48% agreed the proposed choice of characteristics was correct; and
 - 40 – 50% agreed the minimum funding level proposed for each characteristic was correct.
17. A full review of all feedback is currently being considered by the DfE and further guidance will be issued over the summer period which will include the final minimum funding levels that will be applied for 2015/16.
18. Table 1 in Appendix 1 shows that the indicative minimum funding levels compared to the SCC current funding levels. It can be seen from the table that there are a number of variances between the proposed national minimum funding levels and those applied locally by SCC in 2013/14.

19. At the current time no indication has been given as to whether the proposed minimum funding levels will form the basis of any resultant national funding formula. If this was the case, further work needs to be undertaken to move the SCC current rates applied per factor, within the local funding formula, to those applied at the proposed minimum funding levels. Further consultation will need to be undertaken with the Schools Forum to explore possible funding options. Initial issues that could be considered include the following:

- The final proposed minimum funding levels for 2015/16 are yet to be issued however, should the SCC current funding levels be reviewed with a view to aligning them to the minimum funding levels;
- In particular the lump sum payment made to schools by SCC is currently below the proposed minimum funding levels. A decision will need to be made on whether this should be increased in advance of a national funding formula and if so the funding options within the formula to achieve this;
- Forming a small working group to review the above in order to report findings back to the schools forum for discussion and approval.

Appendices/Supporting Information:

Appendix 1 Indicative minimum funding levels compared to SCC current funding levels.

Further Information Available From:

Name: Sue Poynter

Tel: 023 8083 4153

E-mail: sue.poynter@southampton.gov.uk

Appendix 1

Table 1 - Indicative Minimum Funding Levels V SCC Funding Levels

Characteristic		National proposed minimum funding level			SCC current funding level		
		Primary	KS3	KS4	Primary	KS3	KS4
Per Pupil		£2,845	£3,951	£4,529	£2,742	£4,208	
FSM		£893	£1,080		£471	£679	
Deprivation	IDACI 1	£237	£321		£0	£0	
	IDACI 2	£290	£423		£0	£0	
	IDACI 3	£387	£530		£500	£500	
	IDACI 4	£453	£596		£800	£800	
	IDACI 5	£511	£659		£1,200	£1,200	
	IDACI 6	£741	£894		£1,500	£1,500	
Looked After Children (1 day or more)		£1,009	£1,009		£679	£679	
Pupils with Low Attainment		£878	£1,961		£847	£1,076	
English as an additional Language (EAL)		£505	£1,216		£703	£703	
Lump Sum		£117,082	£128,189		£114,200		
Sparsity		£53,988	£53,988		N/A		
Mobility		Not included			£1,028	£1,988	

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BRIEFING PAPER

SUBJECT: SCHOOL BALANCES
DATE: 25^H JUNE 2014
RECIPIENT: SCHOOLS' FORUM

THIS IS NOT A DECISION PAPER**SUMMARY:**

1. This paper details the revenue and capital balances held by schools at the end of 2013/14.

BACKGROUND and BRIEFING DETAILS:**2. School Revenue balances as at the end of 2013/14**

Revenue balances increased in 2013/14 by £1.732m when compared to the balances held at the end of 2012/13. The increase may again be due to the uncertainty felt by schools during the year over the future level of government funding as well as an increase in the amount of Pupil Premium allocations to schools and in terms of secondary schools, preparation for anticipated falling rolls. Revenue balances increased in 43 schools and fell in 13 schools. The balances held by individual schools for 2012/13 and 2013/14 are shown in Appendix 1.

3. When schools originally set their budgets for 2013/14 they planned to reduce balances by the year end by £3m.
4. The change in balances by school sector is shown below, (adjusted for in year Academy transfers):

School Type	2012/13 Outturn £'000	2013/14 Outturn £'000	Change in year £'000
Early Years Centres	57	45	(12)
Primary Schools	4,597	6,217	1,620
Secondary Schools	3,636	3,749	113
Special Schools	540	551	11
Total	8,830	10,562	1,732

5. The table below shows the number of schools across a range of balances:

Amount of Balance £'000	Early Years	Primary	Secondary	Special	Total
Deficit					
0 - 50	1	6		3	10
50 - 100		9	1	1	11
100 - 150		12	2		14
150 - 200		7			7
200 - 250		4			4
250 - 300		1	1		2
300 - 350		1			1
350 - 400		1			1
400 - 450				1	1
450 - 500					
500 +		1	4		5
Total	1	41	8	5	56

6. **Schools in Deficit at the end of 2013/14**

At the end of 2013/14 there were no schools in deficit. This compares with 1 school in deficit at the end of the previous year with a total deficit of £5,412. There were no approved deficit budgets for 2013/14.

7. **Schools with an Excess Balances as at the end of 2013/14**

The number of schools with an excess balance (excluding 7 schools who converted to academy in 2013/14) increased from 30 at the end of 2012/13 to 36 at the end of last year. Of these 36 schools, 28 had an excess balance in the previous year and the excess has risen in 23 of these 28 schools. The total value of the excess increased from £3,511,299 in 2012/13 to £5,033,107 in 2013/14. Those schools where the excess balance increased over the previous year are marked with an asterisk.

8. **Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) Grant**

Schools may carry forward their devolved capital grant for up to three years, enabling schools to save their annual allocations towards the cost of larger projects. The balance of capital grant held at the end of 2013/14 was £806,000 as shown below. The total available to schools for capital funding in 2014/15 is £1.317m.

Sector	2013/14 Capital Outturn £'000	DFC Grant 2014/15 £'000	Total available 2014/15 £'000
Early Years	(4)	5	1
Primary	244	323	567
Secondary	468	151	619
Special	98	32	130
Total	806	511	1,317

9. Other Balances

It should be noted that in addition to schools and capital balances there is a further sum of £1.3m held in balances for other accounts such as community and grant accounts. In total there was £12.6m in schools balances at the end of 2013/14.

10. Loans from school balances

So that school balances are used as far as possible to support the education of children currently in Southampton schools, schools may borrow amounts of up to £200,000 from the pool of school balances to fund certain types of project. All loans in recent years have been to fund IT equipment or facilities. There are 2 loans outstanding with a total debt at the end of 2013/14 of £52,926, these loans are due to repay in full by 2015/16.

11. Balances of schools who converted to academy status during 2013/14

The table below details the surpluses paid to schools during 2013/14 at the time they converted to academy status. There was one sponsored academy conversion with a deficit balance.

School	Balance
Hollybrook Junior School	(£4,676)
Beechwood Junior School	£41,961
Ludlow Junior School	£76,006
Hightown Primary School	£37,406
Kanes Hill Primary School	£174,345
Townhill Infant School	£30,446
Harefield Primary School	£517,337
Total	£872,825

Appendices/Supporting Information:

Appendix 1 Individual School Balances 2012/13 and 2013/14

Further Information Available From:

Name: Sue Poynter

Tel: 023 8083 4153

E-mail: sue.poynter@southampton.gov.uk

SCHOOL BALANCES YEAR END 2013/14

Appendix 1

DFE	School Details	Balance 31/3/2013 £	Balance 31/3/2014 £	% of 2013/14 Budget Share	Change in Year £	Excess Balance 2012/13 £	Excess Balance 2013/14 £	Increase in Excess
10020	Hardmoor Early Years Centre	-56,855	-45,328	8.11%	11,527	0	0	
Early Years Total		-56,855	-45,328		11,527	0	0	
20030	Newlands Primary School	-199,438	-249,628	15.70%	-50,190	72,211	122,401	*
20040	Sinclair Primary School	-180,840	-211,391	25.00%	-30,551	113,190	143,741	*
24010	Mansel Park Primary School	-120,272	-130,595	10.53%	-10,323	21,071	31,394	*
24030	Bassett Green Primary School	-29,679	-54,171	3.15%	-24,492	0	0	
24050	Bevois Town Primary School	-35,692	-71,677	7.00%	-35,985	0	0	
24060	Bitterne Manor Primary School	-58,362	-41,362	5.18%	17,000	0	0	
24070	Bitterne Park Primary School	-149,491	-322,796	15.36%	-173,305	14,084	154,718	*
24090	Mount Pleasant Junior School	-244,782	-286,877	24.58%	-42,095	151,405	193,500	*
24100	Maytree Nursery and Infants School	-64,102	-69,981	5.51%	-5,879	0	0	
24170	Valentine Primary School	-247,403	-395,777	18.25%	-148,374	138,542	222,247	*
24230	St Denys Primary School	-73,414	-98,975	11.17%	-25,561	2,513	28,074	*
24240	St Johns Infant and Nursery School	-94,623	-170,652	20.83%	-76,029	29,084	105,113	*
24280	St Monica Infant School	-26,868	-110,742	11.86%	-83,874	0	36,073	
24290	Sholing Junior School	-128,764	-142,287	15.78%	-13,523	56,649	70,172	*
24300	Sholing Infant School	-100,676	-113,640	13.61%	-12,964	33,868	46,832	*
24310	Swaythling Primary School	5,412	-38,282	4.36%	-43,694	0	0	
24320	Woolston Infant School	-54,301	-93,072	13.54%	-38,771	0	38,068	
24340	Weston Park Infant School	-153,305	-184,172	8.61%	-30,867	0	13,110	
24360	Tanners Brook Primary School	-173,152	-242,069	10.84%	-68,917	0	63,354	
24370	Glenfield Infant School	-6,950	-30,370	3.41%	-23,420	0	0	
24400	Banister Infant School	-98,550	-152,716	19.86%	-54,166	37,034	91,200	*
24410	Mansbridge Primary School	-159,367	-152,723	16.74%	6,644	86,366	79,722	
24460	Thornhill Primary School	-87,305	-94,741	6.97%	-7,436	0	0	
24480	Redbridge Primary School	-87,670	-81,674	8.79%	5,996	13,309	7,313	
24520	Wordsworth Infant School	-83,949	-117,210	14.59%	-33,261	19,691	52,952	*
24550	Moorlands Primary School	-34,343	-36,305	3.92%	-1,962	0	0	
24560	St Monica Junior School	-97,092	-117,756	9.76%	-20,664	539	21,203	*
24620	Weston Shore Infant School	-30,901	-42,545	8.51%	-11,644	0	2,545	
24630	Townhill Junior School	-49,104	-78,668	7.09%	-29,564	0	0	
24710	Oakwood Primary School	-106,282	-134,577	8.79%	-28,295	12,021	12,128	*
27540	Fairisle Infant and Nursery School	-141,680	-150,707	15.41%	-9,027	63,418	72,445	*
27570	Fairisle Junior School	-88,014	-150,691	11.78%	-62,677	0	48,349	
27690	Foundry Lane Primary School	-34,380	-33,597	2.11%	783	0	0	
27700	Shirley Warren Primary and Nursery School	-191,440	-134,445	10.71%	56,995	91,031	34,036	
27710	Mason Moor Primary School	-169,880	-103,075	8.63%	66,805	74,317	7,512	
32000	Bitterne C of E Junior School	-48,674	-103,931	12.67%	-55,257	0	38,332	
32010	Bitterne C of E Infant School	-27,438	-30,159	4.63%	-2,721	0	0	
32030	St Marks C of E Junior School	-95,413	-113,699	6.07%	-18,286	0	0	
32050	St Marys C of E Primary School	-491,819	-785,685	35.15%	-293,866	312,989	606,855	*

DFE	School Details	Balance 31/3/2013 £	Balance 31/3/2014 £	% of 2013/14 Budget Share	Change in Year £	Excess Balance 2012/13 £	Excess Balance 2013/14 £	Increase in Excess
36550	Highfield C of E Primary School	-79,374	-137,908	14.86%	-58,534	5,117	63,651	*
36570	Holy Family Catholic Primary School	-100,945	-171,551	10.95%	-70,606	0	46,165	
36580	St Patricks Catholic Primary School	-157,023	-234,096	19.50%	-77,073	60,988	138,061	*
Primary Total		-4,597,345	-6,216,974		-1,619,629	1,409,437	2,591,267	
42620	Regents Park Community College	-1,153,177	-1,269,632	30.56%	-116,455	945,467	1,061,922	*
42640	The Sholing Technology College	-563,317	-698,420	13.98%	-135,103	313,468	448,571	*
42700	Redbridge Community School	-191,944	-148,670	2.50%	43,274	0	0	
42710	Chamberlayne Park School	-114,805	-104,101	3.30%	10,704	0	0	
42780	Bitterne Park School	-575,412	-655,061	9.04%	-79,649	212,970	292,619	*
43060	Woodlands Community School	-148,926	-71,991	1.76%	76,935	0	0	
43110	Cantell School	-644,992	-550,150	9.89%	94,842	366,905	272,063	
54150	St George Catholic School for Boys	-243,772	-251,155	8.77%	-7,383	100,644	108,027	*
Secondary Total		-3,636,345	-3,749,181		-112,836	1,939,454	2,183,202	
70350	Springwell School	-311,353	-407,583	21.89%	-96,230	162,408	258,638	*
70360	Great Oaks School	-84,814	-92,495	3.70%	-7,681	0	0	
70370	The Cedar School	-85,585	-10,892	0.67%	74,693	0	0	
70390	The Polygon School	-9,777	-22,676	2.19%	-12,899	0	0	
70400	Vermont School	-47,979	-17,240	2.55%	30,739	0	0	
Special Total		-539,508	-550,888		-11,380	162,408	258,638	
Grand Total		-8,830,053	-10,562,370		-1,732,317	3,511,299	5,033,107	

*Schools with an excess balance in 2012/13, increasing in 2013/14

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BRIEFING PAPER

SUBJECT: DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT SAVINGS PROPOSALS 2015-16
DATE: 25TH JUNE 2014
RECIPIENT: SCHOOLS FORUM

THIS IS NOT A DECISION PAPER

SUMMARY:

1. The City Council continues to face very challenging savings targets over the next two years:
 - 2015-16 £31 million
 - 2016-17 £55 million
2. The People Directorate has been asked to make significant savings and in particular has a target to save £1 million from Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) funded services in 2015/16. The Forum's views are sought on the best way of doing this.

BACKGROUND and BRIEFING DETAILS:

3. DSG blocks
The Forum will be aware that the DSG funds three blocks:
 - School Block
 - Early Years Block
 - High Needs Block
4. **Schools block** - funds Primary and Secondary school budget shares (the Individual Schools Budget) and central services that can be retained by the local authority with the approval of the Schools Forum.
5. **Early Years block** – funds the Early Years Single Funding Formula and central services that can be retained by the local authority with the approval of the Schools Forum.
6. **High Needs block** - funds Special schools, units in maintained schools and Pupil Referral Units (PRUs) plus all other local authority budgets for high needs pupils.
7. Flexibility

The main rules around the use of Dedicated Schools Grant are as follows:

- Allowable expenditure is defined in Schedule 2 of the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations.
- Central expenditure from the Schools block and Early Years block must be approved by the Schools Forum
- Central expenditure from the Schools block cannot increase to more than the previous year's figures

8. However, an authority can move money between the blocks following only consultation with the Schools Forum, for example funding High Needs Block pressures from a reduction in the Early Years Block.
9. The regulations define eligible expenditure from the High Needs and Early Years block in very loose terms:

Expenditure on support services for pupils who have a statement of special educational needs and for pupils with special educational needs who do not have such a statement.

Expenditure on early years provision.

10. Therefore, if a saving can be identified from an area currently funded from DSG, this could be replaced by expenditure in relation to the MASH and Early Help service for example, which fit the description above, thereby releasing a saving to the Council.
11. 2014/15 updated DSG allocation

Since January's Forum the Education Funding Agency has issued updated DSG figures, plus the January 2014 Early years count has been completed. Fortuitously, Southampton's DSG allocation has increased as follows:

- **£89,500 14/15 places growth funding for High Needs places.** Mainly relating to the expansion of Great Oaks School
 - **£248,000 full year growth funding in Special Schools and PRUs.** The EFA has awarded schools 5/12ths of the growth money given in 2013/14 for additional places at Springwell School and the Compass School (PRU). The EFA has given about £210,000 of this money to Southampton in error as the Compass School expanded on 1st April 2013 and therefore was funded for a full year of 160 places in 2013/14. However the EFA has confirmed that this money will not be reclaimed in 2014/15. It is recommended that it is treated as a one off allocation however.
 - **£147,200 Additional High Needs Block allocation.** Headroom funds allocated to all authorities on a formulaic basis.
 - **£686,000 Early Years Growth.** Still to be confirmed but based on an increase in the January 2014 pupil count of 140 pupils funded at a rate of £4,893 per FTE pupil.
12. Priorities for this additional funding for this financial year are:
 - Expansion of early years places – see Appendix A.
 - Expansion of Great Oaks and Springwell special schools
 - Top up funding for Special Schools. Latest estimates suggest that there are more Southampton pupils with higher need than budgeted for.
 13. This does give some flexibility to make savings in 2015/16. In addition a significant carry forward of unspent grant (£906,000 from 2013/14) continues to occur each year which could be held in contingency.

14. Suggested savings/efficiencies

A savings target of £1 million has been given for DSG funded services. The first thoughts on how this could be achieved are shown in Appendix B.

15. Forum members are asked to give their views on which savings would be supported or suggest other areas for investigation.

Appendices/Supporting Information:

Appendix A - Plans for expansion of two year old places

Appendix B - Potential savings from DSG 2015-16

Further Information Available From:

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Appendix A

Funding to support two year old expansion 2014/15

Outcome to be achieved	Description	Cost
Families who need individual support to access the entitlement receive it.	Continuation of the contract with the Workers Education Authority to provide outreach workers for 2015-2016. The service makes contact with parents /carers of potentially eligible 2 year olds providing support to complete paperwork/find and access provision.	£71,000
Reaching eligible families and supporting them to access provision.	Increased outreach for 3 week period that HMRC list is "live". 2/3 more lists between now and 31 st March 2015. Last list contained 1,300 names and WEA did not have capacity to follow up on all.	£4,320
The take up of places for disadvantaged 2 year olds in the City is one of the 3 lowest in the South East Region. We are being asked by DfE to focus on increasing take up substantially as soon as possible.	Director of People has agreed to work with the communications team to design a multi layered publicity campaign to raise awareness and increase take up.	Max £20,000
Children have improved speech, language and communication skills on entry to Year R	Pressures on the Portage service have resulted in them withdrawing the 21 groups attended by parents/carers and children previously provided in children's centres to support children with speech, language and communication delay.	£60,000
Continued strategic support, oversight and monitoring of initiative.	Maintain increase in part time hours of EY Commissioner by 7 hours per week until 31 st March 2015.	£9,200
LA required to review Single Funding Formula in response to revised statutory guidance for 2, 3 and 4 year olds. To have in place a system for checking economic eligibility criteria. Adequate capacity to manage increased demand for processing placements/finance	Additional staff time until 31 st December 2014 to support consultation with providers in relation to the Single Funding Formula and for manual verification of applications against financial criteria until the DfE have updated the online checking tool to take into account the extended economic criteria. Additional staff time in the children's data team until 31 st March 2015	£40,000
Families with most complex needs take up the entitlement for their 2 year old.	Continuation of funding for the MASH Early Years Navigators post for 2015-2016 to ensure that as part of the MASH assessment process the most vulnerable 2 year olds access the entitlement.	£36,000

Outcome to be achieved	Description	Cost
2 year olds in the process of being assessed for an Education Health and Care Plan are appropriately supported within their setting.	Additional support funded during the assessment process.	£153,000 (based on numbers assessed 13-14)
All practitioners encourage parents/carers to take up their entitlement with a childminder. More two year olds are placed with a childminder.	Currently take up with childminders is low. The City will only have sufficient places for all eligible two year olds if more are placed with childminders. Many two year olds would be more appropriately placed in a home environment. It is proposed that an experienced childminder works with practitioners and families to increase take up of childminding places.	£10,000
Total		£403,520

Potential savings from DSG 2015-16

Service	2014/15 Budget	Comments
<u>High Needs Block</u>		
Special School outreach	£616,600	Special Schools could introduce charging for outreach service
Pupils with Statements	£1,098,100	Could reduce hourly rate to schools
High Needs staffing teams	£985,800	These costs are being reviewed as part of phase 2 of the restructure of Children's Services.
Emotional Well-being Development Officers	£133,000	Could charge schools for the service
Children Looked After Packages	£113,800	Could look at budget reductions
Out of City placements	£1,160,000	Better commissioning/reduction in number of expensive placements
Disability provision	£699,100	Better commissioning/reduction in number of expensive placements
<u>Early Years Block</u>		
Additional Early Years allocation	£686,000	Could use some of this towards the saving but will need to budget for the move to participation funding for two year olds in 15/16
Early years contracts	£221,500	Cease/retender contracts with National Childminding Association, Pre-school Learning Alliance and MENCAP
Early Years Development Team	£312,800	These costs are being reviewed as part of phase 2 of the restructure of Children's Services.
Early Years intervention	£282,300	Could reduce intervention budget

BRIEFING PAPER

SUBJECT: USE OF INTERVENTION FUND 2013/14

DATE: 25TH JUNE 2014

RECIPIENT: SCHOOLS' FORUM

THIS IS NOT A DECISION PAPER

SUMMARY:

1. With the agreement of the Schools' Forum, £370,000 was held back from the Individual Schools Budget (ISB) in 2013/14 as an Intervention Fund contingency. This paper explains how the 2013/14 Intervention Fund has been used.

BACKGROUND and BRIEFING DETAILS:

2. The School Finance (England) Regulations 2011 allows for a schools specific contingency (Intervention Fund) to be held as central expenditure from the Schools Budget. This is to fund adjustments to budget shares or additional allocations to schools that face extra costs as a result of significant increases in pupil numbers mid-year or those affected by the Primary Review.
3. At the meeting on 23rd January 2013, the Schools' Forum agreed that an Intervention Fund of £370,000 be held back in 2013/14.
4. In 2013/14 £357,417 was allocated to schools from the Intervention Fund. Appendix 1 shows how the funds were used. The remaining balance of £12,583 has been carried forward into 2014/15.
5. It should be noted that a £1.431m of unspent DSG was carried forward into 2014/15. Of this sum £525,000 is specifically identified for Capital Projects in relation to the expansion of 2 year places within the city. The remaining carry forward of £906,000 was due to additional Early Years funding allocated for 2013/14 following the January 2014 census (£400,000) with the balance representing an underspend against 2 year old funding. This £906,000 has currently been earmarked as follows:
 - The potential pressure on schools budgets as a result of implementing equal pay and the living wage.
 - Additional Growth fund allocations for primary schools required to increase numbers of classes for a temporary period.
 - Schools experiencing significant financial difficulties.

Appendices/Supporting Information:

Appendix 1: Use of Intervention Fund 2013/14

Further Information Available From:

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Appendix 1

Use of Intervention Fund 2013/14

	£
Hightown Primary School – Funding for Interim Headship Support.	19,200
Heathfield Junior School – Funding to support improvements in teaching and learning.	15,000
Chamberlayne – funding to cover secondment to Thornhill Primary School	5,000
Growth Funding - Newlands Primary School	33,000
Swathling Primary School – funding to support the inclusion of a child with SEN but without a statement	21,000
Growth Funding – Wordsworth	27,000
Cedar School – Additional allocation	10,000
Fairisle Junior School – Staff backfill costs	15,625
Moorlands Primary School – Funding for equipment	6,500
Fairisle Junior School – Additional Head Teacher responsibilities and back fill arrangements.	23,986
Springwell Special School – Additional allocation	25,000
Bevios Town Primary School	33,000
St Monica Junior School – 50% contribution to clear capital deficit on primary merger.	14,348
Tremona Road – Shortfall on capital allocation	1,415
Moorlands Primary School – School Improvement Action Plan	14,200
Polygon Special School – Home/School Liaison Officer	7,000
Bitterne C of E Infants School – School Improvement Action Plan	10,000
Ian Fielder – Mediation Workshops Redbridge School	2,371
Ian Fielder – Governance review Weston Park School	1,159
Ian Fielder – IEB Regents Park School	2,500
Foundry Lane – Contribution to School Improvements	70,000
Hardmoor Nursery School – reallocation of CRC allowances underspend 2011/12	113
Total Allocated During 2013/14	357,417
Balance C/Fwd 2014/15	12,583
Intervention Fund Budget	370,000