

**SCHOOLS FORUM
NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2015
CANTELL MATHS & COMPUTING COLLEGE**

Present:

<u>Primary School Representatives</u>	
John Draper	Swaythling Primary School
Peter Howard	Fairisle Junior School
Amanda Talbot-Jones	St Denys Primary School
<u>Secondary School Representatives</u>	
Jonty Archibald	Regents Park
Toni Sambrook	Woodlands Community College
<u>Special Schools Representatives</u>	
Andy Evans	Great Oaks School
<u>Academy Representatives</u>	
Anne Murphy	St Anne's Convent
Sean Preston	Hamwic Trust
David Turner	Townhill Infant School
<u>Pupil Referral Unit Representative</u>	
Alison Parsons	PRU/Compass
<u>Non Schools Representative</u>	
Eamonn Keogh	Council Representative
David Wright	PVI provider of early year entitlement
Chris Ode	NASUWT
<u>Observers</u>	
Sue Thompson	Early Years/Sure Start
Councillor Dan Jeffery	Cabinet Member for Education and Change
Robert Hardy	Principal Officer for Early Years and Education
Dave Cuerden	People Directorate's Finance Manager
Irfan Khan	Principal Accountant

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

The Forum noted the apologies of Richard Harris and Peter Sopowski.

It was noted that the following Members had been appointed:

- Martin Brown had replaced Ruth Evans as a secondary school representative.

In addition the following vacancies were noted:

- 2 X Primary School Representatives
- 1 X Academy Representative
- 1 X Non Schools Representative for post 16 Education
- 1 X Secondary Representative Substitute

The Forum thanked Cantell School for hosting the meeting.

2. **ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

For the purposes of this meeting the Forum appointed Robert Hardy as Chair.

Volunteers were sought from the forum to appoint to the Position of Chair and Vice Chair and it was agreed that the details of the roles of Chair and Vice Chair be circulated to the Forum in advance of the next meeting. It was agreed that the formal appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair would be deferred.

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

The Minutes of the Meetings held on 24th June 2015 were approved as a correct record.

4. **SCHOOLS FORUM TERMS OF REFERENCE 2015-2016 AND DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

The Forum considered the briefing paper of the Clerk to the Forum detailing updates and minor changes to the constitution and setting out the requirement for Forum Members to declare their own financial interests and acknowledge the code of conduct.

It was noted that in order to align with current custom and practice the Forum agreed to adjust the numbers of Primary and Secondary Sector substitutes as set out in the report.

RESOLVED that the Terms of Reference set out in the report be agreed and adopted for the academic year.

5. **SECONDARY SCHOOL EXPANSION AND IMPROVEMENT 2015/2025**

The Forum considered and noted the discussion paper written by the School Organisation and Strategy Manager, detailing considerations relating to secondary school expansion within the City

The Forum discussed a number of matters including:

- the need to prepare for additional secondary school places in future years. Members requested, if possible, to see how accurate previous forecasts had actually been;
- the reliability of forecasts of school places; and
- the potential requirement to set up a secondary growth fund.

6. **UPDATE ON EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2015/16 AND 2016/17**

The Forum considered and noted the report of the Interim Principal Officer for Education and Early Years setting out proposals for the Council's spending priorities within the Capital Programme for 2015/16 and future years, in line with Council priorities.

The Forum noted that Cabinet and Council had approved £6.6M of expenditure to the Education and Children's Social Care (E&CSC) Capital Programme earlier in September and that an additional £1.3M for increased capacity at Springwell Special School following increased demand on special places had also been approved.

7. **UPDATES TO SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA 2016/2017**

The Forum considered the report of the Interim Principal Officer for Education and Early Years providing an update on school funding formula for 2016/17 on the basis of information provided by Department for Education

The Forum noted that In July 2015 Central Government announced that it was committed to further moves towards a fairer funding system, the details of which will not be known until after the autumn spending review. The earliest any changes could be introduced is for the 2017-18 financial year.

The Forum noted that any forthcoming Spending Review was not expected until October 2015, at the earliest, and that the review will set out further detail on key schools priorities and would confirm funding levels for other grants and programs.

It was noted that Final funding allocations to each Authority will be made in December, in line with the latest data on their pupil numbers and the Forum noted the basis for allocation of funding and that changes implemented in 2015/16 to the funding formula will continue into 2016/17.