

**SCHOOLS FORUM
NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 13th JANUARY 2016
CONFERENCE ROOM 3, CIVIC CENTRE**

Present:

<u>Primary School Representatives</u>	
Richard Harris	Moorlands Primary School Governor
Mark Sheehan	Mansbridge Primary School
Amanda Talbot-Jones	St Denys Primary School
Julie Swanston	Woolston Infant School
John Draper	Swaythling Primary School
Peter Howard	Fairisle Junior School
<u>Secondary School Representatives</u>	
Martin Brown	The Sholing Technical College
Toni Sambrook	Woodlands Community College
Jonty Archibald	Regents Park Community College
<u>Special Schools Representatives</u>	
Andy Evans	Great Oak's School
<u>Academy Representatives</u>	
Anne Murphy	St Anne's Convent School
David Turner	Townhill Infant School
Sean Preston	Hamwic Trust
<u>Pupil Referral Unit Representative</u>	
Alison Parsons	Compass School
<u>Nursery Schools Representative</u>	
Anne Downie	Start Point Sholing and Northam
<u>Non Schools Representative</u>	
Anna Wright	PVI for Early Years
Pete Sopowski	TLP – representative
<u>Observers</u>	
Sue Thompson	Early Years/ Sure Start
Jeanette Miller	Lead Officer, Children's Data Team SCC

<u>Also in attendance:</u>	
Ed Grimshaw	Clerk
Councillor Dan Jeffery	Cabinet Member for •Education and Children’s Social Care
Jo Cassey	Principal Officer Education and Early Years
Dave Cuerden	SCC - Finance Manager
Irfan Khan	SCC - Principal Accountant
David Cooper	SCC - School Organisation and Strategy Manager

1. APOLOGIES AND CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP (IF ANY)

The Forum noted the apologies of Councillor Keogh. The Forum also noted that Richard Harris now attended the Forum as Governor of Moorlands School and not Cantell and therefor now represented the Primary Group within the Forum. In addition the following vacancies were noted.

- Primary Group – 1x Vacancy
- Secondary Group – 1x Vacancy
- Academy Group – 1x Vacancy
- Special Schools – 1 x Vacancy

2. NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

The Minutes of the Meetings held on 23rd September 2015 were approved as a correct record.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

The Forum elected Richard Harris as Chair and David Turner as Vice Chair for the remainder of the School Year.

4. SECONDARY SCHOOLS EXPANSION (VERBAL UPDATE)

David Cooper, SCC School Organisation and Strategy Manager detailing the current considerations proposed for the provision of secondary school places.

The Forum noted that it was forecast that there would be sufficient spaces for the 2017-2018 but, that measures would need to be taken to relieve the demand for spaces for the following year.

The Forum noted that a formal paper would be going to the Council’s Executive in the forthcoming months. It was AGREED that this paper would be circulated to the Forum for information.

5. EARLY YEARS BLOCK

The Forum considered the decision paper of the Council’s Finance Manager detailing the allocations within the Early Years Block.

Given the fact the Forum received the papers on the morning of the meeting it was decided to defer decision on this matter. The Forum did discuss the addition of a further £23,800 to the Early Years funding for administration, staffing and systems. It was noted that with the back

drop of increasing numbers of children and National Policy changes the need to cover the central expenditure has increased.

6. HIGH NEEDS BLOCK

The Forum considered and noted the briefing paper of the Council's Finance Manager outlining proposals for the High Needs Block including funding for Special Schools, Special Units in Maintained Schools and Pupil Referral Units (PRUs) from April 2016.

It was noted that the forum had no power to adjust the sum allocated by the Council required for the provisions set out in the paper and that there would be a new funding formula introduced from the 2017/2018 school year.

7. 2016/2017 SCHOOLS BLOCK

The Forum considered the decision paper of the Finance Manager detailing the 2016/17 Schools Block which funds Primary and Secondary School budget shares and Central Services retained by the Local Authority.

Given the fact the Forum received the papers on the morning of the meeting it was decided to defer decision on this matter. The Forum did discuss the principles set out in the paper.

It was noted that measures used within the sixth measure Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) 6 had been adjusted by the DfE which reduced its relevance to many of the City's schools.

The Forum agreed that the options for funding presented within the paper gave the broadest range of potential options based on the Average Weighted Pupil Unit (AWPU) and AGREED that it would base its decision on one of options set out in paragraph 12 of the report.

The Forum also requested that further information be provided that would detail the expenditure and balances of the Intervention Fund.