
SCHOOLS FORUM

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23 November 2022

<u>In attendance</u>	
<u>Chair and Vice Chair</u>	
John Draper	Headteacher – Swaythling Primary School
Harry Kutty	Headteacher – Cantell School
<u>Primary Schools</u>	
P K Macbride	Primary Governor
Peter Howard	Headteacher – Fairilse Junior School
Amanda Talbot- Jones	Headteacher – St Denys Primary
Mike Adams	Headteacher - Bitterne Manor Primary
<u>Secondary Schools</u>	
Roger Peplow	Governor – St Georges School
Jim Henderson	Headteacher – Woodlands Community College
<u>Academy</u>	
Sean Preston	Hamwic Trust
James Rouse	Headteacher – St Anne’s Catholic School
<u>Nursery</u>	
<u>Observers</u>	
David Scott-Batey	
<u>SCC officers</u>	
Zoe Snow	SCC - Admissions and School Place Planning Manager
Stave Wade	SCC- Finance Business Partner
Derek Wiles	SCC- School Improvement
Kirsty Relton	SCC - SEND Assistant Team Manager
Clodagh Freeston	SCC- Service Manager - Education Strategy, Planning & Improvement

Apologies

Rob Sanders	Diocese of Winchester
Tammy Marks	Service Manager - Special Educational Needs and Disability
Neil Revell	Headteacher - The Cedar School,

1. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

RESOLVED: that the Minutes for the Forum meeting on 12 October 2022 be approved and signed as a correct record.

2. **MEMBERS NOTED THE REQUIREMENT TO FILL IN AND RETURN DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members of the Forum were reminded to complete the declarations of interest form that was attached to the papers for the meeting.

3. **STANDING ITEM: LA UPDATE ON DFE/ESFA FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Forum considered the briefing paper giving an update on DFE/ESFA funding announcements.

Concern was raised that there was potentially a large shortfall and in the budget overall. The Forum noted that the final funding settlement had not been announced but that there was potentially a significant shortfall if the National Funding Formula (NFF) if the initial modelling using the Authority Proforma Tool (APT) followed along similar funding allocations to previous allocations.

It was noted that a revised APT would be released shortly and that the options would become clearer for January meeting.

4. **PFI UPDATE**

The Forum considered a briefing paper detailing potential addition premises cost for the City's PFI schools. The Forum expressed an understanding and supported the need for the additional allowance and agreed to supporting the principle keeping the transfer subject to the final allocation of funding from the Department for Education.

5. **SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GRANT**

The Forum noted the potential changes for the way the that school improvement grant would be administered for maintained schools. The Forum was informed that the proposal was that instead of the Local Authority asking for the money to be refunded that schools should take responsibility for using the money in the way that they choose to bring about improvement. It was noted that the potential change would need the approval of Head Teachers before it was signed off by the Forum.

6. **IN YEAR FAIR ACCESS**

The Forum received a briefing from Zoe Snow and Clodagh Freeston detailing the Council's In Year Fair Access scheme detailing the principles used in allocation of places and the numbers of spaces that had actually been allocated.

It was noted that the briefing had been requested in a response to a question from schools seeking to understand whether there was any additional funding that could be allocated to schools having to accommodate extra pupils

because of the scheme. Officers indicated that they would review whether the allocation of spaces was fairly balanced across the City or whether it was a particular area of the City that was being called upon to take the bulk of the allocations.

It was noted that there was a number of choices that could be used to allocate additional funding and that officers would explore the potential costings.

7. **TEACHER'S PAY AWARD AND POLICY**

The Forum received and noted the details of the teacher's pay and award and policy for information.

8. **HIGH NEEDS UPDATE**

The Forum received a briefing outlining the Delivering Better Value Programme. It was noted that the programme was a DfE scheme designed to assist local Authorities whom had experienced an increase in costings to support children that required high levels of support. The Forum learnt that the Council was working with a company called Newton Europe in order to fully understand the support packages offered with a view to assessing what the Council was allocating funding to and assess where and how efficiencies could be made with the long term goal of reducing the overall budget.

9. **FUTURE PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS**

The Forum noted the programme of future meetings.