

SCHOOL FORUM

Item 7

Members of the School Forum are requested to consider and decide on the recommendation of this report

Servicing of the School Forum

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to discuss with the Forum the administrative support provided to them and funded by the DSG.

Recommendation

It is recommended that, if head room allows, consideration is given to increasing the sum available to service the Schools Forum.

1. Background

When School Forums were established the regulations allowed for them to reserve a sum for their expenses from the DSG. Their expenses can include venues for meetings and training, refreshments, training, research, preparing papers, general administration, child care and minuting meetings.

2. Walsall

The Schools Forum in Walsall has had an annual budget of £10,000 that sits with the Council who provide administrative support to set agendas, take minutes and maintain the membership. The full costs of these services are not charged to the budget available.

The venues and refreshments for the forum are provided, free at the point of delivery, by Education Walsall.

3. Proposal

It is proposed that the budget for the Forum is increased to £30,000 per annum. The money will be used to pay for accommodation, training and the cost of a full time officer to service the Forum. The officer would keep up-to-date on Schools Forum developments, regulation and guidance, do research, prepare papers and identify training and development opportunities for Forum members.