

Schools Forum

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday, 14th October, 2014 at 4.00 p.m. at Blakenall Village Centre, Thames Road, Blakenall, Walsall

Present:- Dr. A. Bruton (Vice-Chairman)
Mrs. C. Draper
Mrs. M. Sheehy
Ms. T. Coles
Mr. S. Davies
Mr. G. Crowther
Mr. M. Allman
Mrs. J. Ward
Mrs. B.E. Westwood
Mrs. G. Healy
Mr. J. Bonhomme
Mr. F. Hodgkinson
Mr. B. Powell
Mr. R. Bragger

In Attendance:- Mrs. L. Poole - Assistant Director, Children's Services, Walsall MBC
Mr. D. Mortiboys - Education Finance, Walsall MBC
Mrs. D. Morris - Education Finance, Walsall MBC
Mr. M. Morris - Children's Services, Walsall MBC
Mrs. K. Grandison - Children's Services, Walsall MBC
Mrs. S. Morgan - Children's Services, Walsall MBC

		Action
1. 14.10.14	Apologies Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Mr. Vlahakis (Chairman), Mr. K. Whittlestone, Dame Brennan, Mrs. Fraser, Ms. Yates, Mrs. Woodcock, Mr. Ison, Mr. Pritchard-Jones, Ms. Harnisch, Mr. Orlik and Mr. Dwyer.	
2. 14.10.14	Minutes - 23rd September, 2014	The minutes of the meeting held on 23 rd September, 2014 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

<p>3. 14.10.14</p>	<p>Matters arising from the minutes</p> <p>There were no matters arising.</p>	
<p>4. 14.10.14</p>	<p>Late items to be introduced by the Chairman</p> <p>The Chairman reported that an item relating to 2 year old place creation would be considered by the Forum.</p>	
<p>5. 14.10.14</p>	<p>Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 (as amended)</p> <p>There were no items for consideration in the private session.</p>	
<p>6. 14.10.14</p>	<p>Maintained Schools De-delegation 2015/16</p> <p>A report was submitted.</p> <p>Mr. Mortiboys enlarged upon the report and indicated that the Primary Forum had discussed the matter on 2nd October, 2014. He added that this was the third year de-delegation had been followed by the Authority.</p> <p>Mr. Mortiboys drew the Forum's attention to Section 2 of the report which explained who was eligible to vote on the proposals and Section 3 which contained the recommendations to be voted upon.</p> <p>Mrs. Sheehy asked if de-delegation had to be reconsidered annually. Mr. Mortiboys confirmed that Schools Forum had to consider it annually.</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That Maintained Secondary School Members of Schools Forum:-</p> <p>(a) approve the de-delegation of the Free School Meal Eligibility Service (estimated at £20.44 per free school meal eligible pupil);</p>	

	<p>(b) approve the de-delegation of Licenses/Subscriptions (estimated at £1 per pupil);</p> <p>(c) do <u>not</u> approve de-delegation of staff costs - Union and Public Duties (£5.80 per pupil);</p> <p>(d) approve de-delegation of Insurance Services (estimated at £18.10 per pupil);</p> <p>(e) do <u>not</u> approve de-delegation of contingency (£2.67 per pupil);</p> <p>(f) recognise that library services, maternity support and behaviour support are not de-delegated and that they will have to purchase individually any service they require;</p> <p>(2) That Maintained Primary School Members of Schools Forum:-</p> <p>(a) approve de-delegation of Free School Meal Eligibility Service (estimated at £16.99 per free school meal eligible pupil);</p> <p>(b) approve de-delegation of Insurance Services (estimated at £18.10 per pupil);</p> <p>(c) approve de-delegation of Licenses/Subscriptions (estimated at £1 per pupil);</p> <p>(d) approve de-delegation of Maternity Supply cover (estimated at £6.61 per pupil);</p> <p>(e) approve de-delegation of staff costs - Union and Public Duties at £5.80 per pupil;</p> <p>(f) approve de-delegation of Behaviour Support Services estimated at £12.73 per pupil;</p>	
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	<p>(g) approve de-delegation of Library Services estimated at £14.63 per pupil;</p> <p>(h) do <u>not</u> approve de-delegation of contingency at a value of £2.67 per pupil;</p> <p>(3) That all maintained school members approve the rolling forward of any contingency underspend from 2014/15 to 2015/16.</p>	
<p>7. 14.10.14</p>	<p>Surplus</p> <p>Mr. Mortiboys reported that officers were waiting for the Education Funding Agency (EFA) to comment on the surplus and he would report back to the next meeting of the Forum.</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That the information be noted and a report be submitted to the next meeting of the Forum.</p>	
<p>8. 14.10.14</p>	<p>Walsall review of special educational provision</p> <p>A report was tabled at the meeting.</p> <p>Mr. Morris - Children's Services, enlarged upon the report and indicated that special educational provision had not been reviewed since 2004. He added that there was a lack of provision for children with autism in Walsall. Provision for speech and language was also limited.</p> <p>Mrs. Draper asked about early years provision. Mrs. Grandison - Children's Services, commented that provision was currently provided from Key Stage 2 and above. However, consideration could be given to assessment from Key Stage 1. She continued that the timescale for informal consultation had slipped and would not be completed until early December.</p> <p>After detailed discussion it was,</p>	

	<p>Resolved</p> <p>That the report be noted.</p>	
<p>9. 14.10.14</p>	<p>Post Ofsted Action Plan/Traded Services</p> <p>Mrs. Poole reported that Version 10 of the Plan would be considered at Children’s Scrutiny Panel this evening. She indicated that Traded Services would continue to grow and Service Level Agreements would be used to tailor needs to the requirements of schools across the Borough.</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That the verbal report be noted.</p>	
<p>10. 14.10.14</p>	<p>Forward Plan</p> <p>The Forward Plan was submitted.</p> <p>Dr. Bruton suggested that special educational needs should become a standing item on all Schools Forum agendas.</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the forward plan of decisions be noted;</p> <p>(2) That special educational needs be included as a standing item on all future agendas.</p>	<p>Glenys Ensor/ Lynda Poole</p>
<p>11. 14.10.14</p>	<p>Late items to be introduced by the Chairman</p> <p>2 year old place creation</p> <p>A report was tabled at the meeting.</p> <p>Mrs. Morgan enlarged upon the report and drew the Forum’s attention to Table 1 which showed that 308 additional places for 2 year olds had been created. She reminded the meeting that a further 1,000 places would be required if the DFE’s estimate of Walsall’s requirements were to be met. She added that a further thirteen schools had offered to provide places if funding could be obtained.</p>	

	<p>In response to questions, Mrs. Morgan stated that 250 additional places would be provided by the thirteen schools.</p> <p>After further discussion it was,</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That Schools Forum:-</p> <p>(1) Approves the use of up to £2.2 million of 2 year old funding from the Dedicated Schools Grant to be used to create places for disadvantaged 2 year olds;</p> <p>(2) Approves the request for approval from the Education Funding Agency and/or the Secretary of State as necessary to accomplish this;</p> <p>(3) Notes that decisions on how to allocate these funds will be provided through recommendations arising from the Children’s Asset and Strategy Group;</p> <p>(4) Notes that Andrea Potts, as Chair of the Children’s Asset and Strategy Group, should attend Schools Forum on a three monthly basis to report on expenditure as required.</p>	Andrea Potts
<p>12. 14.10.14</p>	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>There was no correspondence received.</p>	
<p>13. 14.10.14</p>	<p>Date and time of next meeting</p> <p>It was NOTED that the next meeting of Schools Forum would be held on Tuesday, 9th December, 2014 at 4.00 p.m. at Blakenall Village Centre, Thames Road, Blakenall, Walsall.</p>	

The meeting terminated at 5.15 p.m.