

Schools Forum

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday, 17 October, 2017 at 4.00 p.m. at Blakenall Village Centre, Thames Road, Blakenall, Walsall

Present:- Mr. M. Vlahakis (Chair)
 Ms T. Coles
 Mr. S. Davies
 Mrs C. Draper
 Mr. A. Seager
 Mr. L. Baker
 Mr. R. Beech
 Mrs H. Keenan
 Mrs C. Fraser
 Mrs D. Kelly
 Mrs B. E. Westwood
 Mrs G. Healey
 Mr. A. Beason
 Ms L. Foster
 Mr. M. Fox
 Mr. B. Powell
 Ms D. Clarke
 Mr. S. Pritchard-Jones
 Mr. R. Bragger
 Mr. A. Orlik

In Attendance:- Mrs L. Poole – Assistant Director – Access and Achievement
 Mr. L. Haynes - Education Finance
 Ms C. Goss – Head of Service, SENDI
 Mrs B. Mycock – Clerk to Schools Forum

		Action
1. 17.10.17	Apologies Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Dr. Bruton (Vice Chair), Mrs Sheehy, Mr. Whittlestone, Mr. Baker and Mr. Hodgkinson	
2. 17.10.17	Minutes – 19 September, 2017 The minutes of the meeting held on 19 September, 2017 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record, subject to the following amendments:- Page 3 – Schools Forum Membership to be looked into with regards to the Constitution Page 4 - Second sentence of the second paragraph of item 21. should have read 'The Chair added that he did not feel the consultation process had been as transparent as it could have been'	Clerk to check SF membership

<p>3. 17.10.17</p>	<p>Matters Arising from the Minutes</p> <p><u>Item 21 – page 4</u> The Chair reported that the Office of the Schools Adjudicator had responded regarding a proposed objection made by Schools Forum in respect of an academy’s admission arrangements and he requested that a copy of the letter be forwarded to all members.</p> <p><u>Item 12 – page 6</u> Ms Coles confirmed she had received feedback from members regarding the School Music Service.</p> <p><u>Item 17 – page 9</u> School Ready Fund. Action – further ideas or suggestions for ongoing improvements to be forwarded to Ms. N. Hart and not Mr. Haynes</p> <p><u>Item 18 – page 9</u> Mrs Poole advised members that the online consultation regarding the expansion schemes closed on 23 October, with a subsequent report to Cabinet on 25 October. The schools for expansion consideration were:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salisbury Primary • Leighswood • St. Michaels CE Primary • Old Church CE Primary • Manor Primary • Short Heath Federation <p>Mrs Poole further advised that a consultation pertaining to special schools would commence after October half term with feedback to be presented to Cabinet in February 2018. This would create a tight turnaround for the September 2017 intake.</p>	<p>Clerk to forward copy of letter to all members for information.</p> <p>Ideas/ suggestions to Nicola Hart</p> <p>To note</p> <p>To note</p>
<p>4. 17.10.17</p>	<p>Late Items (urgent) to be introduced by the Chairman</p> <p>There were no late items.</p>	
<p>5. 17.10.17</p>	<p>Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 (as amended)</p> <p>The Forum was advised that there were no items for consideration in the private session.</p>	<p>To note</p>
<p>6. 17.10.17</p>	<p>Update on School Ready Investment</p> <p>The Chair advised Schools Forum that the item had been deferred to allow further consultation at Primary Nursery Special Forum, Secondary Forum and within the Council.</p>	<p>To be deferred until 16 January, 2018</p>

<p>7. 17.10.17</p>	<p>SENDI Update</p> <p>Ms Goss gave a verbal update which included:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working to establish a new Parents/Carer Forum to establish a new group to reach broader range of people, especially around SEN • Developing exclusive practice training – 73 in attendance • Local Offer – has been a big challenge for Walsall and final soon to be launched onto the corporate website • Walsall currently has 490 care plans remaining to be transferred into EHCPs by 23.03.18, with a number of staff seconded to assist. The plans will be reviewed to ensure quality, particularly for senior school pupils • The electronic system EHCP module is moving forward and is currently being piloted • The permanent SEN Officer post plus Educational Psychologist posts have been advertised. There is currently a shortage of EPs within local councils - Walsall was required to have 9.2 Educational Psychologists but currently had 5.8. All local Councils currently trying to recruit EPs • A report will be taken to Cabinet of 25 October regarding children with special educational needs and who have SEMH who are over-represented in out of borough placements <p>In response to offers of support and an enquiry if there were any opportunities for staff secondments to carry out EHCPs, Ms Goss stated she would look into the request.</p> <p>The Chairman asked that all future Schools Forum agenda items be written reports as opposed to verbal updates.</p>	<p>Report to Cabinet 25 October</p> <p>Ms Goss to check with regards to secondment opportunities</p> <p>All officers</p>
<p>8. 17.10.17</p>	<p>Review of LGPS Past Service Pension Costs Apportionment</p> <p>A report had been submitted to provide alternative options for the allocation of past service pension costs relating to the local government pension scheme (LGPS)</p> <p>The Chair stated that he felt the report should be taken back to Primary Forum for further discussion and that primary governors and maintained secondary school contacts should be invited to the relevant meeting.</p> <p>In response, Mr. Fox, a new Primary Governor representative advised Schools Forum he would benefit from further explanation as he did not feel able to vote on the item in question without further explanation.</p>	<p>.</p>

	<p>The Chair requested the agenda item be brought back to Schools Forum for determination at its December meeting, to ensure all Schools Forum members are aware of the impact of the budget and that in the interim, all maintained primary and secondary head teachers plus the three Schools Forum primary governors are emailed further information and that any queries should be directed to Mr Lloyd Haynes.</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) the report be taken to Primary Forum ii) a meeting be held with the 3 maintained secondary heads for further discussion iii) a copy of the report to be forwarded to all primary governor representatives iv) report to be brought back to Schools Forum meeting on 5th December, 2017 	<p>Lloyd Haynes to attend Primary Forum to discuss pension scheme and for primary governors and maintained secondary schools' contacts to be invited.</p> <p>Bev Mycock to forward</p> <p>To note</p>
<p>9. 17.10.17</p>	<p>Maintained Schools De-delegation 2018/19</p> <p>A report had been submitted to provide maintained schools with the opportunity to decide whether to de-delegate funding for relevant services back to the local authority for the 2018/19 financial year.</p> <p>Mr. Haynes advised that Primary Forum had discussed the item at its meeting on 5 October and that relevant secondary heads had received the same detailed information prior to today's Schools Forum.</p> <p>Ms Coles expressed concern regarding school meals being included within the service level agreement when some schools do not use the service as much as other schools and she requested the issue be looked at next year to determine how de-delegation can be best served to all primary schools.</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1 Maintained Secondary School members of Schools Forum approve de-delegation of the Free School Meal Eligibility Service (estimated at £16.99 per free school meal eligible pupil). 2.2 Maintained Secondary School members of Schools Forum do not approve de-delegation of Staff Costs – Teaching Union and Public Duties (estimated at £4.99 per pupil). 	<p>To note all</p>

	<p>2.3 Maintained Secondary School members of Schools Forum do not approve de-delegation of Staff Costs – Support Staff Union and Public Duties (estimated at £2.99 per pupil).</p> <p>2.4 Maintained Secondary School members do not approve de-delegation of Behaviour Support Services (estimated at £14.64 per pupil).</p> <p>2.5 Maintained Secondary School members of Schools Forum approve de-delegation of Insurance Services (estimated at £24.12 per pupil).</p> <p>2.6 Maintained Secondary School members of Schools Forum approve de-delegation of a contingency (estimated at £2.67 per pupil).</p> <p>2.7 Maintained Secondary School members recognise that library services and maternity support are not de-delegated and they will have to purchase individually any service they require.</p> <p>2.8 Maintained Primary School members approve de-delegation of Free School Meal Eligibility Service (estimated at £16.99 per free school meal eligible pupil).</p> <p>2.9 Maintained Primary School members approve de-delegation of Insurance services (estimated at £18.78 per pupil).</p> <p>2.10 Maintained Primary School members approve de-delegation of Maternity Supply cover (estimated at £7.08 per pupil).</p> <p>2.11 Maintained Primary School members approve de-delegation of Staff Costs – Teaching Union and Public Duties (estimated at £4.99 per pupil).</p> <p>2.12 Maintained Primary School members of Schools Forum do not approve de-delegation of Staff Costs – Support Staff Union and Public Duties (estimated at £2.99 per pupil).</p> <p>2.13 Maintained Primary School members do not approve de-delegation of Behaviour Support Services (estimated at £14.64 per pupil).</p> <p>2.14 Maintained Primary School members do not approve de-delegation of Library Services (estimated at £15.18 per pupil).</p>	
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<p>10. 17.10.17</p>	<p>Forward Plan</p> <p>The Forward Plan was submitted.</p> <p>Mrs Poole reported that subsequent to a £600m reduction in schools budgets nationally, debates would take place within all Forums regarding the shaping of School Improvement and associated services.</p> <p>The LA/School Improvement Team is attending meetings with the Regional Schools Commissioner to discuss future bids to help improve educational outcomes across the Black Country. School Regional Improvement Bids (SRIBs) have already been submitted.</p> <p>All good news / successes to be brought along to Schools Forum.</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That the Forward Plan and subsequent amendments be noted.</p>	<p>To note</p> <p>All</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, 5 December, 2017 at 4.00 p.m. at Blakenall Village Centre, Thames Road, Blakenall, Walsall.</p>	
	<p>The meeting terminated at 4.50 p.m.</p>	
	<p>Signed:</p>	<p>Date:</p>