

Schools Forum

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday, 25th September, 2012 at 4.00 p.m. at Barr Beacon School, Old Hall Lane, Aldridge, Walsall

Present:- Mr. S. Flynn (Chairman)
Mr. M. Vlahakis (Vice-Chairman)
Mrs. C. Draper
Mrs. M. Sheehy
Mr. D. Brownsword
Mr. G. Crowther
Dame M. Brennan
Mrs. J. Ward
Mrs. P. Hunt
Mr. E. Gee
Mr. F. Hodgkinson
Mr. T. Perrett
Mr. R. Bragger
Ms. H. Harnisch

In Attendance:- Ms. D. Morris - Walsall MBC
Mr. D. Mortiboys - Walsall MBC

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| 1. 25.9.12 | Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman Resolved That Mr. S. Flynn be appointed Chairman of the Forum for a period of twelve months. Mr. Flynn in the Chair Election of Vice-Chairman Resolved That Mr. M. Vlahakis be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Forum for a period of twelve months. | |
| 2. 25.9.12 | Apologies Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Mr. J.P. Clarke, Ms. M. Yates, Mrs. M. Woodcock and Mr. M. Ison. | |

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| <p>3. 25.9.12</p> | <p>Minutes - 10th July, 2012</p> | <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 10th July, 2012 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.</p> |
| <p>4. 25.9.12</p> | <p>Matters arising from the minutes</p> <p>There were no matters arising from the minutes of 10th July, 2012.</p> | |
| <p>5. 25.9.12</p> | <p>Late items to be introduced by the Chairman</p> <p>There were no late items.</p> | |
| <p>6. 25.9.12</p> | <p>Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 (as amended)</p> <p>The Forum noted that there were no items for consideration in the private session.</p> | |
| <p>7. 25.9.12</p> | <p>Schools Forum Consultation - Local Offer</p> <p>A report was submitted.</p> <p>Ms. C. Boughton (Walsall Children's Services - Serco) outlined the contents of the report and after discussion it was,</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That the contents of the report be noted.</p> | |
| <p>8. 25.9.12</p> | <p>Response to Consultation on Schools Funding Formula</p> <p>A report was submitted.</p> <p>Mr. Mortiboys circulated a draft timetable setting out the various stages of consultation and dates that these would be taking place to enable the Department for Education consultation timeframe to</p> | |

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| | <p>be met.</p> <p>Mr. Crowther reported that Secondary Heads Forum had been given the information and informed of the rigid framework to which there had been no objections. This view had also been echoed by Primary Forum.</p> <p>Ms. Sheehy stated that the agreement had been reached at the extraordinary meeting where all Primary Forum Members were represented. With regard to the lack of response, Mr. Brownsword stated that this could have been as a result of some Members being unaware of the meeting.</p> <p>Mr. Flynn referred to an e-mail received from Mr. Ison regarding Grace Academy requesting additional time to consider the matter.</p> <p>The Chairman reminded Members that this matter had been discussed at the last meeting with regard to the principle and that figures would be provided in the report to Cabinet.</p> <p>After debate it was,</p> <p>Resolved (1 Member voting against)</p> <p>(1) That Schools Forum accepts the feedback from Primary, Special and Secondary Heads Groups and note that this was unanimous in supporting the principles that had been proposed through the consultation;</p> <p>(2) That Schools Forum endorse the principles of giving each school indicative impacts of the new funding formula;</p> <p>(3) That Schools Forum were pleased that consultation was over and commends the formula to Cabinet.</p> | |
| <p>9. 25.9.12</p> | <p>Sneyd School closing balances</p> <p>A report was circulated at the meeting.</p> <p>Members were informed that the information had been submitted to the Department for Education as part of the 251 outturn statement.</p> | |

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| | <p>The closing down balance of £835,379.00 was added to the available DSG resources and allocated to schools in the current financial year as part of the individual schools budget.</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That the contents of the report be noted.</p> | |
| <p>10. 25.9.12</p> | <p>Proposed Process for Decisions on De-Delegation of Funding</p> <p>A report was submitted.</p> <p>Mr. Mortiboys outlined the first stage of the process whereby maintained Secondary and maintained Primary Schools would vote on the de-delegation proposals. The services and their value were set out in the attached report.</p> <p>In response to points raised, Mr. Mortiboys stated that information relating to the type of provision to be provided would be submitted to the meeting on 9th October, 2012, with the final vote taking place on 6th November, 2012.</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the content of the report be noted;</p> <p>(2) That Schools Forum nominate the under-mentioned persons from the maintained Primary and maintained Secondary sector to lead on the process and ensure that adequate consultation takes place:-</p> <p><u>Primary sector</u>:- Max Vlahakis (Head Teacher); Mr. E. Gee (Primary Governor)</p> <p><u>Secondary sector</u>:- Mr. J.P. Clarke (Secondary Head Teacher); Mr. F. Hodgkinson (Secondary Governor)</p> <p>(3) That Schools Forum endorse the proposed timetable and agree that the final decision take place at the meeting to be held on 6th November, 2012.</p> | |

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| <p>11. 25.9.12</p> | <p>Arrangements for the funding of Early Years Provision 2013/14</p> <p>A report was submitted.</p> <p>After consideration it was,</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>(1) That the contents of the report in respect of free early education for 2 year olds be noted;</p> <p>(2) That with regard to the operation of the EYSFF from 2013:-</p> <p>(a) a single hourly rate will apply to all private, voluntary and independent settings;</p> <p>(b) low cost SEN funding will, from April, 2013, be incorporated into the hourly funding applicable for the setting.</p> | |
| <p>12. 25.9.12</p> | <p>Maintained primary and secondary schools to make decision on whether to retain centrally funded services</p> <p>This matter was considered under Item 8.</p> | |
| <p>13. 25.9.12</p> | <p>Forward Plan</p> <p>The Forward Plan was submitted and agreed as set out.</p> | |
| <p>14. 25.9.12</p> | <p>Late items to be introduced by the Chairman</p> <p>Mr. Mortiboys agreed to e-mail the De-delegation Forum paper to all Primary and Secondary Schools.</p> | |

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| <p>15. 25.9.12</p> | <p>Correspondence</p> <p>(a) Correspondence from Walsall Children's Services - Serco Re: Procedural Errors and Admissions</p> <p>The correspondence was submitted.</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That the correspondence be received and noted.</p> <p>(b) Correspondence from Education Funding Agency Re: Reformed Funding System</p> <p>The correspondence was submitted.</p> <p>Resolved</p> <p>That a representative be invited to a future meeting.</p> | |
| <p>16. 25.9.12</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 October, 2012 at 4.00 p.m. at Barr Beacon School, Old Hall Lane, Aldridge, Walsall.</p> | |

The meeting terminated at 5.33 p.m.