

## Schools Forum

### Urgency Sub-Committee

**Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2009 at 5.00 p.m. at Education Development Centre, Pelsall Lane, Rushall, Walsall**

**Present:-** Mr. J. Baker - Chairman (Ex-officio)  
Mr. A. Davies  
Mr. S. Flynn  
Mr. E. Gee  
Mr. F. Hodgkinson  
Ms. H. Lomas

**In Attendance:-** Ms. J. Taylor (Walsall Children's Services - Serco)  
Ms. D. Morris (Walsall Children's Services - Serco)  
Parmjit Sandhu (Walsall MBC)

		Action
<b>1.</b> <b>14.7.09</b>	<b>Apologies</b>  There were no apologies.	
<b>2.</b> <b>14.7.09</b>	<b>Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985 (as amended)</b>  There were no items which the Sub-Committee considered should be dealt with in private session.	
<b>3.</b> <b>14.7.09</b>	<b>Use of Schools Specific Contingency</b>  A report was submitted. Julie Taylor outlined the main points and responded to questions. Mr. Baker asked if there was any mechanism for clawback if pupil numbers dropped. Julie Taylor indicated that there was a need to look at this on an annual basis and adjust the budget accordingly and ascertain whether the children triggered additional resources. Mr. Hodgkinson referred to previous schools who had requested this facility and asked whether this would cause any problems. In reply, Ms. Taylor pointed out that the School Funding Regulations	

	<p>stipulated that schools had to work to the number of pupils identified in the January census. Mr. Flynn asked if the January census figures were based on PLASC. Ms. Taylor indicated that the figures were based on planned spaces not PLASC. She re-iterated the need to look at the figures annually and at least fund those children on the roll.</p> <p>Mr. Flynn referred to Paragraph 2.1 of the report, with specific reference to 13.6 places, and asked what the principle was and whether there would be increased costs. In reply, Dawn Morris explained that a funding statement of income and expenditure was produced annually. With regard to Rushall Primary School, the school was funding additional places at a loss. The request in respect of King Charles Primary was a different situation and had not been taken at face value.</p> <p>Julie Taylor explained that if an additional family turned up they would not necessarily want additional funding and would need to be assessed. School Specific Contingency was limited and needed to be managed very carefully. At the present time, there was approximately £500k in the Contingency Fund which could only be used for very specific issues such as special needs. There were 9 other Additionally Resourced Provision (ARP) based in the Borough and the question was raised whether the position would be reviewed if a school found itself with excessive funds. Dawn Morris indicated that a monitoring exercise on the use of funding was being done at present.</p> <p><b>Resolved</b></p> <p>That a report on the funding of the remaining 8 ARPs in the Borough be submitted to the next scheduled meeting of the Forum.</p> <p><b>Resolved further</b> (Unanimously)</p> <p>(a) That approval be given to allocate to Rushall Primary School, a sum from the School Specific Contingency equal to the shortfall in place led funding identified at Paragraph 2.1.1 of the report amounting to £27,795;</p> <p>(b) That approval be given to allocate to King Charles Primary, a sum from the School</p>	<p>Julie Taylor/ Dawn Morris</p> <p>Julie Taylor/ Dawn Morris</p> <p>Julie Taylor/ Dawn Morris</p>
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	<p>Specific Contingency equal to 50% AWPU funding for 10 pupils for 2008 and 2009, as detailed in Paragraph 2.2.3 of the report amounting to £10,675 and £10,940 respectively, for this year only, and;</p> <p>(c) That a review of the funding method used for all ARPs be undertaken to ensure that allocations in 2011-2014 better reflect costs incurred in meeting the specific types of provision; the review to include head teacher representation from the school where the ARP is sited.</p>	<p>Dawn Morris/ Julie Taylor</p>
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The meeting terminated at 5.40 p.m.