

SCHOOLS FORUM

MINUTES OF THE MEETING of the Schools Forum held virtually on Thursday 9 February 2023 at 4.30pm.

Present

Dave Jones	LA Maintained	Primary Phase
Jackie Collins	LA Maintained	Primary Phase
Jo Cooper	Academy	Primary Phase
Laura Flitton	Academy	Primary Phase
Nys Hardingham	Academy	Secondary Phase
Nathan Waites	Academy	Secondary Phase
Sharon Burt	Academy	Special
Share D'All	Governor	Primary Phase
Chris Caddamy	16-19 education	
Leo Madden	Councillor	
Sam Galloway	Observer	Solent Academy Trust
Andrew Marek	Observer	Solent Academy Trust
Suzy Horton	Councillor, Observer	Cabinet Member for Children, Families & Education

8. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mike Garlick, Anne Hibbert, Sean Preston and Councillor Russell Simpson.

9. Declarations of Interest

Alison Egerton, Finance Manager informed the forum that there were two declarations outstanding which would be followed up.

10. Membership Update.

Angela Egerton, Finance Manager informed the forum that:

- No new members had joined since the previous meeting.
- The Early Years representative tenure will come to end before the next meeting.
- There are four vacancies:
One mainstream secondary governor
One academy primary representative.
Two academy secondary representatives.

11. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 11 January 2023

DECISION

The minutes held on 11 January 2023 were agreed as a correct record.

12. **Matters Arising.**

Whether the minimum funding level for KS4 pupils at KS4 at a UTC has a different weighting than pupils in a secondary school.

Alison Egerton, Group Accountant informed the forum that all the values are listed for completeness, but to clarify, the secondary minimum pupil level is a weighted average of KS3 and KS4 values. The city has no schools that are solely KS3, but the UTC covers years 10 to 13. As an authority, the council is responsible for paying years 10 & 11 funding and that is why we use the KS4 minimum funding level. The post 16 funding for years 12 to 13 is paid directly to the college through the Education & Skills Funding Agency.

In response to a question, she confirmed that KS4 pupils receive the same level of funding wherever they study.

Whether the PAN is in our scheme because it must be above the agreed PAN

She added that the Department for Education's statutory guidance for growth states that growth funding is only for mainstream schools' growth in pre-16 numbers to meet basic need. There is no definition of basic need, but the authority receives a basic needs capital grant which supports the expansion of schools. The Published Admission Number (PAN) is used as an indicator that growth is happening because of basic needs and sufficiency requirements in the city.

13. **Dedicated Schools Grant Budget 2023-24**

Angela Mann, Finance Manager introduced the report and in response to questions, clarified the following points:

The forum is being asked to agree that the carry forward of balances be used to fund high needs places.

Paragraph 6.4 refers to the £2m of DSG carry forward that has been set aside for future specialist places, which is shown in Table 1 as the £0.7m for places at the Wymering School and £1.3m is for future year places where there will be a lag of funding until the pupils are on the October census.

£1.9m contingency fund is on the basis as last year and equates to 1% of the whole DSG funding.

DECISIONS

- 1. Endorsed the initial determination of the Schools Budget for 2023-24 as set out in Appendix 1.**
- 2. Endorsed the 2023-24 Element 3 Top-up values for Special Schools, Inclusion Centres, Alternative Provision settings and Mainstream schools, as set out in Appendix 2.**
- 3. Endorsed the proposal that any carry forward of balances from 2022-23 to be used to assist with the revenue costs associated with the planned increase in high needs places, specifically The Wymering School, the continued introduction of the funding reform changes and fund any potential financial pressures arising during 2023-24.**

14. Dates of Future Meetings

RESOLVED that the following dates be agreed:

2023

Wednesday 24 May

Thursday 13 July

Thursday 5 October

Thursday 7 December

2024

Thursday 11 January

Wednesday 7 February