

SLOUGH SCHOOLS FORUM

SCHOOLS GROUP:

Julia Shepard (Vice-Chair), Barbara Clark, Gillian Coffey, John Constable, Harry Duffy, Martin Davis, Helen Huntley, Maureen Mallinson, Paul McAteer, Charlie McGeachie, Christine Mountford, Kevin O'Driscoll, Jon Reekie, Mary Sparrow, Maggie Stacey, Jo Rockall, Kate Webb, Virginia Barrett, Jean Cameron, Jo Matthews, Nicky Willis, Philip Gregory and Maggie Waller (Chair)

OBSERVERS:

Lynda Bussley

ATTENDEES:

Ruth Bagley (Chief Executive, SBC), Angela Mellish

LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY:

Robin Crofts, Michelle Perkins (Clerk), Roger Edwardson and Steve Elson

**DATE & TIME: WEDNESDAY, 12TH DECEMBER, 2012 AT 8.00 AM
BEECHWOOD RESEARCH AND CONFERENCE CENTRE, LONG
READINGS LANE, SLOUGH, BERKSHIRE, SL2 1QE**

AGENDA

	<u>Page</u>
1. Apologies	
2. Declarations of Interest	
3. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising	(Pages 1 - 4)
4. Services to Schools Review - update	
5. DfE Funding Reform Progress	(Pages 5 - 6)
6. Academies - update	
7. 2012/13 Work Programme and Key Decisions Log	(Pages 7 - 10)

This page is intentionally left blank

Slough Schools Forum- Meeting held on Wednesday, 14th November, 2012

Present: Maggie Waller, Holy Family Primary School (Chair)
Julia Shepard, Beechwood Secondary School (Vice-Chair)
Barbara Clark, Godolphin Junior School
John Constable, Langley Grammar
Helen Huntley, Haybrook College
Maureen Mallinson, Westgate Secondary School
Jon Reekie, James Elliman Primary School
Mary Sparrow, Wexham Secondary School
Jo Rockall, Herschel Grammar School
Virginia Barrett, East Berkshire College
Lynda Bussley, NUT (Observer)
Jo Matthews, Littledown
Nicky Willis, Cippenham Primary School
Maggie Stacey, St Anthony's Primary School
Bea Williams, Slough & Eton Academy (Sub for Paul McAteer)
Maggie Waller, Holy Family Primary School (Chair)

Observers: Lynda Bussley, NUT (Observer),

Other attendees: Sue Binfield, Eddie Neighbour, Angela Mellish

Officers: Robin Crofts, Angela Wallace-Dickie (stand in Clerk)

Apologies: Charlie McGeachie, Kevin O'Driscoll, Michelle Perkins, Jean Cameron, Paul McAteer, Philip Gregory, Ruth Bagley (Chief Executive, SBC)

PART I

174. Apologies

Apologies were received from Philip Gregory, Slough Centre Nursery, Father Kevin O'Driscoll, St Joseph's Catholic High School, Jean Cameron, Children's Centre Rep, Michelle Perkins, (Clerk), Charlie McGeachie, Montem Primary School, Paul McAteer, Slough & Eton Academy, Ruth Bagley Chief Executive, SBC

175. Declarations of Interest

None.

176. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

Invitations have been sent for a Task & Finish Group for notional early years and a date has been fixed for the first meeting; 20th November at 2pm.

Action: Robin Crofts to follow up meetings with regards 5-16, High Needs and Early Years It was noted that adequate notice needs to be given of dates (at least a month in advance) to enable Headteachers to attend.

Helen Huntley expressed concern regarding PRU funding: that the Minimum Funding Guarantee may not offer protection.

It was noted that the figure of 55 places (para 169) applies to Millside not Haybrook.

An update was given regarding the submission of the information to the DfE on 31st October 2012 re the formula and noted that the 1% movement within secondary funding was included. It was also noted that as we move through to January priorities will be fixed in terms of values and brought back to Schools Forum.

It was noted that Kevin Gordon had spoken to Maggie Waller and the suggestion is that issues relating to the service around Trades Union support should go to SSEF with any financial implications coming to Schools Forum.

Jo Matthews referred to the item in the minutes regarding the Memorandum of Understanding for Services Supporting Behaviour and asked who could provide the necessary financial information.

Maggie Waller to review Schools Forum membership numbers in relation to pupil numbers to ensure correct ongoing balance in membership. This was agreed to be deferred until January 2013 so that verified pupil numbers can be used.

The minutes of the meeting were agreed as an accurate record.

177. Review of Closing Balances as at 31st March 2012

Schools Forum noted the report regarding Schools' Balances 2011 – 2012.

Nicky Willis stated that Academies no longer have a limit on balances and the old 12% cap had been lifted. However, this limit does still apply to academies which converted in April 2012 unless an individual request is made to the Secretary of State

178. Academies - update

Robin Crofts stated that there was no change since the update given at the October Schools Forum meeting: Willow to convert to sponsored academy in 2013 and 6 more schools planning to convert Easter and summer of 2013.

Clarification was sought as to whether schools which are part of a Multi Academy Trust are still treated as separate schools with separate DfE numbers and this was confirmed as the case.

It was also noted that a school's category of 'special measures' ceases once it is sponsored and Ofsted scrutinises two terms later.

179. 2012/13 Work Programme and Key Decisions Log

Schools Forum noted the work programme, key decisions log and date of next meeting which is 12th December 2012.

With regard to work planned, it was confirmed that Steve Elson had been commissioned to take forward the financial work required in respect of the formula which was welcomed. Concern was expressed with regards the lack of solid, clear and consistent support for the forum going forward. Robin stated he would be looking into this.

It was noted that there was no representation from Finance at this meeting.

There was a general consensus of lack of support from SBC and Avarto with regards to financial support, breaching SLAs still in place. This position was felt to be untenable and very serious.

A lack of confidence in financial data being provided to schools was mentioned in relation to job harmonisation. It was also stated that, as new Headteachers are in post, they need strong financial support.

Action: Robin Crofts agreed to raise these concerns with Ruth Bagley and schools agreed to marshal their concerns to bring to the table in a meeting to address these issues. Maggie Stacey (Chair of Primary Headteachers Association) and Julia Shepard (Chair of Secondary Heads Association) agreed to gather school concerns and liaise with Maggie Waller.

180. Services to Schools Review - Update

Ruth Bagley was to give an update, but was unable to attend.

(Note: The Meeting opened at 8.15 am and closed at 9.40 am)

This page is intentionally left blank

**SLOUGH SCHOOLS FORUM
12 December 2012**

**Implementation of DfE Funding Reform
(Director of Education & Children's Services)**

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1** To inform Schools Forum on the current position regarding High Needs, Post 16, 5-16 funding and Early Years.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1** For information only.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1** Not applicable.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1** Not applicable.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

5.1 High Needs Block

A meeting of the High Needs Task and Finish Group has been arranged for 14th December.

The DfE have implemented the changes to the High Needs Block baseline that have been requested.

5.2 Post 16

No new information.

5.3 5-16 Funding

Meetings of the 5-16 Funding Task and Finish Group have been arranged for 19th December and are being arranged for early January 2013.

The DfE have sent questions regarding the October submission of the Slough funding model and they have been answered. One outstanding question is that Slough's primary/secondary ratio is high at 1: 1:43 and that ranks Slough as one of the eight highest in the country.

The final version of the formula model is due in January and there are still a small number of other issues to be agreed before submission:

- a) Split Site Factor criteria are needed.
- b) Growth Fund criteria are needed.

5.4 Early Years

Meetings of the Early Years Task and Finish Group have been arranged for 5th December and 12th December. The aim of the group is to have a revised Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF) ready for consultation with the Schools' Forum and early years providers in January 2013.

The DfE have announced the level of 2 year old funding for 2013-14 though there are still questions over that the funding covers. Once those questions have been resolved the Early Years Task and Finish Group will also work on a 2 year old formula within the overall EYSFF.

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

- 6.1 The relevant legal provisions are contained within the main body of this report.

Section 151 Officer – Strategic Director of Resources

- 6.2 The financial implications of the report are outlined in the supporting information.

Access Implications

- 6.3 There are no access implications.

7 CONSULTATION

Principal Groups Consulted

- 7.1 Not applicable.

Method of Consultation

- 7.2 Not applicable.

Representations Received

- 7.3 Not applicable.

Contact for further information

Steve Elson (Interim Finance, ECS)
(01753 477209) steve.elson@slough.gov.uk

Slough Schools Forum – 2012/13 Work Programme

Wednesday 12 December 2012

- Services to Schools
- Implementation of DfE Funding Reform (including High Needs Post 16, 5-16 and Early Years)
- Academies update
- 2012/13 Work Programme and Key Decisions Log

Wednesday 23 January 2013

- Review of Scheme for Financing Schools
- Final Statutory Schools Budget 2013-14
- Review of Accountability for Central Budgets 2011-12
- Quarter 3 Budget Monitoring 2011-12
- Academies update
- Membership Update
- 2012/13 Work Programme and Key Decisions Log

Wednesday 27 February 2013

- Academies update
- 2012/13 Work Programme and Key Decisions Log

Wednesday 20 March 2013

- Academies update
- 2012/13 Work Programme and Key Decisions Log

Wednesday 8 May 2013

- Indicative Outturn 2012-13
- Academies update
- 2012/13 Work Programme and Key Decisions Log

Wednesday 3 July 2013

- Schools Outturn 2012-13
- School Budget Plans 2013-14
- Confirmation of Final DSG allocations 2013-14 (subject to DfE notification date)
- Academies update
- 2012/13 Work Programme and Key Decisions Log

This page is intentionally left blank

Schools Forum Key Decisions Log V3 291012				
Issue and Decision	Schools Forum date	Schools Forum agenda item no.	School Forum Minute	
Fair Funding Formula Consultation for 2013 -14 Schools Forum agreed the content of the consultation with all schools regarding changes to the Fair Funding formula for 2013, with the principle that the aim in moving to the new formula arrangements is, within restrictions imposed by the DfE regulations, to minimise turbulence for individual schools	12/09/12	6	149	
Confirmation of DSG Allocation 2012 - 13 Schools Forum acknowledged final DSG allocation 2012 - 13 and confirmed outline Schools Budget	12/09/12	7	148	
Headroom to support the development of secondary school places Schools Forum agreed that the £30,000 allocated at the July 2012 meeting to support the development of secondary school places, be allocated equally across the three successful free school proposers in Slough whose bids were approved by the Prime Minister in July 2012	12/09/12	8	156	
Headroom to support the implementation in-year of new resource unit places from September 2012 Schools Forum agreed that £376,000 be retained to support the implementation in-year of new resource unit places from September 2012.	12/09/12	8	156	
Headroom - PRU activities at Littledown during 2012 - 13 Schools Forum agreed that £70,000 be set aside but not allocated at this stage, to support PRU activities at Littledown during 2012 - 13, pending further work on the overall funding	12/09/12	8	156	
Fair Funding Formula Consultation for 2013 -14 It was confirmed that, for formula purposes, Claycoats is a split site school and therefore it was appropriate to consult on the option of a formula factor to reflect this.	03/10/12	3	159	
Headroom Schools Forum agreed that the £30,000 allocated at the July 2012 meeting to support the development of secondary school places and intended to be allocated equally across the three successful free school proposers in Slough whose bids were approved by the Prime Minister in July 2012 - be allocated at a later date when sites and intake clearer. LA to contact the three free school proposer groups.	03/10/12	3	159	
Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF) Schools Forum agreed a number of changes to the EYSFF: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An additional provider type 'Academy' at the same rates as the provider type 'primary'. • Provider specific lump sums as a short term position. • Hourly rates for supplements as a short term position. • Base hourly rates equivalent to current staffing rates for EYSFF MFG purposes. 	03/10/12	5	161	
Headroom Following update that the majority of the students of the three successful free schools will be from Slough and that the sites would not have an impact on intake, Schools Forum agreed to the £30,000 being held and kept under review.	24/10/12	3	168	
Fair Funding Formula 2013 -14 It was confirmed that the £70,000 for Littledown School was formally approved at the last SSEF meeting	24/10/12	3	168	
Schools Forum recommended the following proposals to the Council for approval: Not to include a factor for Looked after Children or English as an Additional Language as the DfE datasets do not target the real need in Slough appropriately and recommended that all the other relevant factors be included in the Slough formula.	24/10/12	5	170	
Agreed to propose Appendix F and G of report to SBC with further discussion to follow amongst Secondary Headteachers re Appendix G which moves 1% of funding to basic entitlement from low attainment and has the effect of smoothing the distribution across non-selective and selective schools to the benefit of the selective schools (later endorsed by Secondary Headteachers 31/10/12).	24/10/12	5	170	
Agreed to distribute deprivation funding using 51% free school meals (Ever 6 FSM) and 49% IDAC.	24/10/12	5	170	
Agreed the recommended model for pupil mobility which maps the current turbulence factor to the compliant mobility factor	24/10/12	5	170	
Agreed the standard lump sum factor.	24/10/12	5	170	
Agreed the split site factor – the final unit value to be confirmed by January 2013.	24/10/12	5	170	
Agreed the factor for rates and PPI. Current formula factors are replicated in the recommended model	24/10/12	5	170	
De-delegation Maintained schools agreed de-delegation of Outreach (former behaviour support) for 2013/14 to support the planned transfer of the management of the service to Littledown and Haybrook from January 2013. Academies present indicated clear support for the service, indicating a willingness to buy in.	24/10/12	5	170	
Growth Fund De-delegation of Trade Union staff costs was agreed for 2013/14. Schools Forum agreed to retain relevant central funding for significant pupil growth.	24/10/12	5	170	

This page is intentionally left blank