

SLOUGH SCHOOLS FORUM

SCHOOLS GROUP:

Maggie Waller (Chair), John Constable (Vice-Chair), Louise Lund, Debbie Richards, Julie O'Brien, Paul Adams, Barbara Clark, Gillian Coffey, Harry Duffy, , Paul McAteer, Kevin O'Driscoll, Jon Reekie, Mary Sparrow, Maggie Stacey, Jo Rockall, Virginia Barrett, Jean Cameron, Nicky Willis, Philip Gregory, Navroop Mehat and Hardip Singh

OBSERVERS:

Lynda Bussley

ATTENDEES:

Kathleen Higgins, Helen Huntley, Angela Mellish, Councillor Pavitar K. Mann

CAMBRIDGE EDUCATION:

Robin Crofts

LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY

Steve Elson, Atul Lad and Rajpreet Johal (Clerk)

**DATE & TIME: WEDNESDAY, 26TH FEBRUARY, 2014 AT 8.00 FOR 8.15 AM
BEECHWOOD RESEARCH AND CONFERENCE CENTRE, LONG
READINGS LANE, SLOUGH, BERKSHIRE, SL2 1QE**

AGENDA

Page

1. Apologies
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising (Pages 1 - 8)
4. Quarter 3 Budget Monitoring 2013-14 (Pages 9 - 12)
5. 2014-15 Budget Process Update (Pages 13 - 14)

6. Cambridge Education
7. Academies Update
8. 2013-14 Work Programme and Key Decisions Log **(Pages 15 - 22)**
9. Any Other Business

Slough Schools Forum- Meeting held on Wednesday, 15th January, 2014

Present: Maggie Waller, Holy Family Primary School (Chair)
John Constable, Langley Grammar (Vice-Chair)
Louise Lund, Barney Bees Day Nursery
Debbie Richards, Arbour Vale School
Gillian Coffey, Lynch Hill Primary School
Paul McAteer, Slough and Eton C of E Business and Enterprise College
Jon Reekie, James Elliman Primary School
Mary Sparrow, Wexham Secondary School
Jo Rockall, Herschel Grammar School
Jean Cameron, Slough Children's Centres
Philip Gregory, Baylis Court Nursery School
Navroop Mehat, Wexham Court Primary School
Barbara Clark, Godolphin Junior School
Maggie Stacey, St Anthony's School

Observers: Lynda Bussley (NUT)

Attendees: Kathleen Higgins, Deborah Ajose, Helen Huntley, Nicky Willis, Eddie Neighbour, Tony Smith (Cambridge Education), Robin Crofts(Cambridge Education),

Officers: Steve Elson and Atul Lad and Rajpreet Johal (Clerk)

Apologies: Paul Adams, Hardip Singh, Julie O'Brien and Virginia Barrett

PART I

288. Welcome & Apologies

Maggie Waller welcomed all present.

Apologies were noted from Paul Adams (Upton Court Grammar), Julie O'Brien (Our Lady of Peace Junior School), Virginia Barrett (East Berkshire College) and Hardip Singh (Khalsa Primary School).

289. Declarations of Interest

None

290. Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

Minutes of last meeting agreed as accurate with the following matters arising.

Page 2

Robin Crofts confirmed that Jackie Wright will be leaving Slough Borough Council at the end of January. Chris Aston, interim replacement has started in post and will be covering the statutory responsibilities associated with SEN and Disabled children alongside the contractual compliance arrangements with Cambridge Education.

Robin reported on the possibility of the SEN statutory work passing over to Cambridge Education at a later date.

Robin noted that Steve Elson and Atul Lad are representing the Local Authority (LA) Finance team. The Strategic Director of Wellbeing will decide who will represent her at Schools Forum. Robin clarified that Cambridge Education is not well placed to represent the LA.

Robin Crofts confirmed that key contact details for Cambridge Education have been circulated to all schools. Robin to forward a copy to Schools Forum. It was requested that Robin request LA details be circulated also to Slough schools and Schools Forum.

Maggie Waller noted that the Education Funding Agency (EFA) attended the last meeting and she reported the positive feedback she had received from Mike Fenton (EFA) following the meeting including that *'participants were positively encouraged to contribute to the debates. There was a clear explanation of who could vote on which issues and opportunities for attendees to express contrary views. The inputs from LA maintained schools and academies were equally received.'*

291. 2014-15 Budget Process Update (including Formula Report)

Atul Lad presented the paper and reported that the Task and Finish group met on two occasions. He explained that the unit values will be submitted to the DfE by 21st January and schools' budgets done on 23rd January. Atul mentioned that the Mobility factor has been removed as agreed at the December meeting and the funding added to social deprivation. He also referred to the increase in the Growth Fund, which is the subject of a later report, but the implications of increasing the Growth Fund to £1.5 million are included in determining the unit values.

He drew members' attention to the Task and Finish Group recommendations that:

- The formula factor unit values in Appendix 1 are supported (see report).
- Schools Forum notes that the following amounts have been added to the 2014-15 Schools Block from previous years' underspends:
 - £567,293 from the 2012-13 unspent contingency
 - £300,000 from the remaining 2012-13 DSG underspend
 - £400,000 from the estimated 2013-14

It was made clear that the Task and Finish group had focussed on the unit values and had looked carefully at the modelled impact on individual schools. The ratio was an outcome of this process.

There was considerable discussion around the financial impact of the unit values, particularly in terms of the impact on the primary: secondary funding ratio. The unit values recommended by the Task and Finish group lead to a change in the primary: secondary ratio, moving it from 1:1.39 to 1:1.38. The Task and Finish group had

looked at a range of models and had looked at the impact each model had on individual schools.

Paul McAteer asked if there was evidence that led to the shift in the ratio.

Maggie Waller referred to the interesting but inconclusive work by Sam Ellis commissioned by the Schools Forum and to a letter she had received from Primary Headteachers outlining pressures including regarding establishing leadership structures. Navroop Mehat made reference to evidence based Primary Headteachers' concerns.

Mary Sparrow referred to the need to be cautious as the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) will protect short term but is not guaranteed beyond 2015. She also referred to the reduction in per-student funding post-16 and the removal of transitional protection and the pupil premium increasing at a higher rate for primary pupils.

John Constable noted that £220,000 would be moved from secondary to primary as a result of the recommended change to the unit values and the negative impact of this would be spread across all secondary schools pre MFG. However, it would impact on 5 secondary schools, selective and non-selective after MFG. The gain would be across almost all primary schools after MFG. He also said that it was important to consider the totality of funding for schools in both primary and secondary phases, and whether the other funding sources are increasing or decreasing.

It is because this change had such a specific negative impact on a small number of schools that a greater change was not recommended by the Task and Finish group.

Nicky Willis mentioned that Primary Headteachers are not comfortable taking money from the 5 schools. She mentioned that when children come into education they are coming in below average on entry. Key Stage 1 and 2 results were improving but attainment was still below average on entry to secondary education.. She also referred to comparisons of ratio with statistical neighbours and the national average of 1:1.28.

Maggie Waller noted that comparison with other LAs is difficult as these LAs may not have selection and it is not always clear what is included for the purpose of calculating the ratio.

A member mentioned that there is a difference between an 'average' and a 'median', meaning that the 'average' ratio may not be the most common, as outliers with particularly low ratios could skew the 'average'.

Paul McAteer noted that the link between achievement and funding is not evidenced. He expressed concern that clear evidence had not been provided to support the recommendation being made. He requested that the model with the financial implications of the changes be circulated to Schools Forum members. **Action:** Atul Lad to circulate the model with the financial implications to Forum members..

Helen Huntley reported that the Task and Finish group was mindful of the impact in both phases and did not look at this in isolation. The group also looked at the Growth Fund which will increase by over £1 million and primaries will benefit initially.

She also referred to £1 million in Cambridge Education, money for school improvement, recognising Key Stage 2 results.

Barbara Clark suggested that Schools Forum agree the recommendations of the Task and Finish group as they were working on behalf of the Forum.

Mary Sparrow referred to forthcoming changes in curriculum and how important it is that all schools remain tenable. She said that it was important to find a way forward collectively and there was general support for this approach from both primary and secondary phase members.

Maggie Waller mentioned that the Task and Finish group was not unanimous but that the majority of those on the group were in agreement with the values proposed and this included primary and secondary colleagues, hence the recommendation. She noted that it is important for Schools Forum to pass on a clear recommendation to the LA.

Schools Forum agreed to endorse the recommendation, accepting the unit values proposed but registering concern about the impact.

292. Growth Fund

After the last meeting, officers reviewed the level of the Growth Fund and this had been considered by the Task and Finish group.

Currently, the Growth Fund only supports bulge classes and the first year of permanent expansion. The recommendation to increase the Growth Fund by £1.2 million to £1.5 million will provide funding for each new year group joining the school in a permanent expansion. Currently, when a new year group joins the school there is a lag before funding is triggered at the next census (7 months for maintained schools and 11 months for academies). It was confirmed that academies would receive the full amount of AWPU funding due so that there is no gap.

It was noted that this would support necessary expansion in primary schools initially and secondary schools in 3 to 4 years' time.

Maggie Waller mentioned that the DfE does not fund this funding gap so the DSG will be top sliced across all phases to fund the increase. She offered to write to the DfE to take this up and she asked for support from members and officers in this in order to put a good case with evidence of impact of this lack of funding.

It was noted that the increase can only apply to 2014/15 and that the balance left in this year's fund was only £100,000 approximately.

Schools Forum agreed to accept the recommendation to increase the Growth Fund of £1.5 million.

293. 2014-15 DSG Blocks (School Block)

Atul Lad went through the report to the Schools Forum, detailing the estimated Schools' Block budget for 2014-15: £106,104,552 based on October 2013 pupil numbers.

Centrally held items were agreed at Schools Forum in December bar two items. It was proposed that Schools Forum note that £28,000 previously held to fund a KS3 Coordinator be returned to the DSG. It was proposed that the £30,000 for Broadband maintenance is continued to be held for 2014/15 and included in the Cambridge Education Review of centrally held expenditure. It was noted that any centrally held funding not spent will come back to Schools Forum for re-allocation.

There was some discussion about the funding relating to Schools Improvement and Robin Crofts explained that the funding is being spent mainly on consultants fulfilling the LA statutory duties in relation to monitoring, challenge and intervention. It was suggested and agreed that Schools Forum should be in receipt of evaluation of Cambridge Education spend in centrally retained budgets, whether managed by Cambridge Education or allocated to schools for specific projects. This item will be added to the Schools Forum Work Programme.

Recommendations 2.2 & 2.3 were agreed by the Schools Forum.

In relation to recommendation 2.1 (to note the estimated Schools Block) this was noted but subject to clarification of the funding from the Council relating to the PFI factor being confirmed. Maggie Waller is to request clarification from the Council of the PFI figures implicit in the estimated Schools' Block figures and confirmation regarding the Council's contribution to the 'affordability gap'.

294. 2014-15 DSG Block (High Needs Block)

Atul Lad presented the report to inform the School's Forum of the estimated High Needs Block budget for 2014-15.

The DfE has given an initial £17,053,097. £241,000 has been added to the Block from the 2012-13 DSG underspend and £29,542 for PFI from Council funding.

Schools Forum looked at Appendix 1 of the report which shows the detail. Atul noted the expenditure lines may change in line with number of places. He also noted that the PFI figure has changed and is now £309,000.

Helen Huntley reported that, at a meeting of the Special Academy Trust, schools had expressed concerns about the High Needs Block to DfE representatives. She referred to Slough's positive policy of having brought back young people from out borough placements and providing within the borough. She said that there may now be a negative impact on Slough compared to other LAs. DfE officials had acknowledged this and promised to take this concern back to the DfE.

Schools Forum noted the estimated High Needs Block but subject to clarification of the overall funding from the Council relating to the PFI factor being confirmed.

Action: Maggie Waller is to request clarification and confirmation from the Council regarding the Council's contribution to the 'affordability gap'

295. 2014-15 DSG Blocks (Early Years Block)

Atul Lad presented a report to inform the Schools Forum of the proposed Early Years Block budget for 2014-15.

Atul noted the Early Years Block for three and four year olds has been estimated at £9,147,255 based on January 2013 numbers; £3,130,366 for two year old places and £1,111,090 carried forward from 2013/14.

Jean Cameron explained the reason for the carry forward was that 2 year old eligibility did not kick in until September 2013 and awareness of places was slower than expected, with only 60% of the target 450 places taken up. She said that the carry forward next year is likely to be less as there is major marketing to raise awareness and there are changes in criteria of eligibility which will include families on working tax credit. Jean Cameron asked for schools' support in raising awareness and will circulate information to schools.

Gillian Coffey asked if Jean could confirm that there will be no shortage of places as the target is rising to 1073 and she said that they are looking at how to provide the places.

There was discussion about the implications of the new requirement for primary schools in relation to free school meals for KS1 pupils. Steve Elson noted that it may be that a grant will be available but there is no information as yet from the DfE. Schools Forum agreed to keep an eye on the implications of free schools meal as there may be revenue issues.

Schools Forum agreed the recommendations to note the estimated Early Years Block for 2014-15 and agreed the carry forward into 2014/15 for two year old funding.

Schools Forum also agreed the two central expenditure items shown in the Appendix of the report: £41,070 for Behaviour Support and £1,428? for Trades Union duties.

296. Cambridge Education

Robin Crofts reported there are five reviews taking place of the work Cambridge Education is undertaking for the LA: Schools Improvement; SEN and Children with Additional Needs; Access; Early Years and Children's Centres and cross cutting Business Support processes. There will be a Strategic Partnership meeting on 21st January to look at the review so far. There have been meetings with headteachers and groups and the outcomes will be shared. He agreed to provide verbal feedback at the Schools Forum.

297. Academies Update

Academies:

Montem (from 1st December 2013)

Foxborough (from 1st January 2014)

There will be another 9 or 10 over the next 7 to 9 months, bringing the total to over 30 of the 48 schools.

298. 2013-14 Work Programme and Key Decisions Log

An item is to be added to July meeting on the Work Programme: dates of future meetings.

299. Membership

Maggie thanked Harry Duffy for his contributions to Schools Forum and it was noted that his term of office ends at the end of this month.

Membership is to be reviewed once January census figures have been received.

Michelle Perkins wrote to academies last term asking for contact details of 'academy proprietors' to facilitate the election of Schools Forum academy representatives. The response was disappointing with only nine replies received out of twenty one. The Chair is to write again.

300. Any Other Business

Modelling of the impact on individual schools of the unit values which lead to the 1:1.38 ratio to be sent to members of the Schools Forum.

(Note: The Meeting opened at Time Not Specified and closed at Time Not Specified)

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SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM
26th February 2014

Quarter 3 Budget Monitoring 2013-14
(Directorate of Wellbeing)

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Schools' Forum of 2013-14 forecasted school revenue balances as at the end of quarter 3. The information presented is based on schools returns for the 3rd quarter, from April to December.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 For information only

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Not applicable

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 None.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 The scheme for financing schools requires maintained schools to provide the authority with details of anticipated and actual expenditure and income on a quarterly basis.
- 5.2 All schools presented returns that forecasted a positive closing revenue balance (*shortfall in expenditure relative to the schools budget share plus/minus any balance brought forward from the previous year*).
- 5.3 6 Primary schools, 4 Nurseries and 3 Secondary schools are projecting to end the year with balances above the balance control mechanism thresholds (8% for Primary, Nursery and Special schools and 5% for Secondary schools). Queries have been made about how these balances will be used.
- 5.4 Summary of issues noted in returns:
- Unexpected staff changes.
 - Difficulties in recruitment of staff in applications and quality of applicants.
 - Capital works being cancelled, deferred or reduced.
 - New grants identified (PE grant, teacher training)
 - Nursery's - adjustments in budgets
- 5.5 Appendix A shows summary budget information for Nursery, Primary, Secondary and Special schools. The table gives forecasted expenditure and income for the 2013-14 financial year, resulting in the forecasted

closing revenue balances. It also shows the revenue balance as a percentage of total budgeted income for the year.

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 None.

Method of Consultation

- 7.2 Not applicable.

Representations Received

- 7.3 Not applicable.

Background Papers

Appendix 1

Contact for further information

Atul Lad (Principal Accountant, ECS)
(01753 875547)
atul.lad@slough.gov.uk

Appendix 1

School	Opening Revenue Balance	Forecasted Expenditure	Forecasted Income	Forecasted Closing Revenue Balance	Movement in Revenue balance
Nursery	(1,127,263)	4,828,476	(4,411,267)	(710,054)	417,209
Primary	(4,252,603)	34,730,772	(33,816,667)	(3,338,498)	914,105
Secondary	(2,664,165)	22,308,901	(21,761,976)	(2,117,240)	546,925
Special	(385,081)	7,600,230	(7,215,149)	0	385,081
Total	(8,429,112)	69,468,379	(67,205,059)	(6,165,792)	2,263,320

School	Opening Revenue Balance	Forecasted Expenditure	Forecasted Income	Forecasted Closing Revenue Balance	Movement in Revenue balance	Balance as % of funding
Arbour Vale School	(385,081)	7,600,230	(7,215,149)	0	385,081	0%
Baylis Court Nursery School	(99,998)	597,717	(547,197)	(49,478)	50,520	9%
Beechwood School	(598,556)	6,294,325	(6,252,973)	(557,204)	41,352	9%
Chaivey Early Years Centre Nursery	(154,922)	739,933	(635,544)	(50,533)	104,389	8%
Cippenham Nursery	(111,303)	615,233	(555,508)	(51,578)	59,725	9%
Claycots Primary School	(607,124)	4,213,082	(3,929,722)	(323,764)	283,360	8%
Holy Family Catholic Primary School	(143,888)	1,715,775	(1,737,621)	(165,734)	(21,846)	10%
Iqra Slough Islamic Primary School	(130,962)	2,858,739	(2,845,500)	(117,723)	13,239	4%
Khalsa Primary School	(374,629)	1,782,152	(1,893,750)	(486,227)	(111,598)	26%
Lea Nursery	(131,877)	561,590	(516,307)	(86,594)	45,283	18%
Our Lady of Peace Catholic Infant and Nursery school	(133,555)	1,389,394	(1,262,968)	(7,129)	126,426	1%
Our Lady of Peace Catholic Junior School	(38,152)	1,454,671	(1,419,150)	(2,631)	35,521	0%
Parlaurt Park Primary School	(90,199)	2,560,946	(2,721,335)	(250,588)	(160,389)	9%
Penn Wood Primary & Nursery School	(186,446)	2,948,590	(2,889,856)	(127,712)	58,734	4%
Pippins School	(55,067)	858,028	(859,402)	(56,441)	(1,374)	7%
Priory School	(751,559)	4,215,656	(4,151,342)	(687,245)	64,314	17%
Slough Early Years Centre	(495,608)	924,609	(893,743)	(464,742)	30,866	67%
St Anthony's Catholic Primary School & Nursery	(158,685)	2,270,986	(2,204,123)	(91,823)	66,862	4%
St Bernard's Catholic Grammar School	(98,483)	4,628,779	(4,548,000)	(17,704)	80,779	0%
St Ethelbert's Catholic Primary School	(389,882)	2,199,948	(1,993,327)	(183,261)	206,621	9%
St Joseph's Catholic High School	(698,097)	4,297,247	(4,169,871)	(570,721)	127,376	14%
St Mary's Church of England Primary School	(388,015)	2,300,870	(2,306,261)	(393,406)	(5,391)	17%
Western House Primary School	(441,224)	2,636,914	(2,386,166)	(190,475)	250,749	8%
Wexham Court Primary School	(420,212)	2,714,415	(2,479,112)	(184,909)	235,303	7%
Wexham School	(1,269,029)	7,088,550	(6,791,132)	(971,611)	297,418	14%
Total	(8,352,554)	69,468,379	(67,205,059)	(6,089,234)	2,263,320	

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**SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM
26 February 2014**

**2014-15 Budget Process Update
(Directorate of Wellbeing)**

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Forum of the current position regarding the 2014-15 school budgets.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Forum notes the current position regarding the 2014-15 school budgets.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To keep Forum informed of the school budget process for 2014-15.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 Not applicable.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 The final proforma was sent to the DfE by the deadline and the version of the formula agreed by the January Forum was ratified by the Chief Executive and the Cabinet Member for Education at Slough Borough Council. The 5 to 16 budgets were then sent to maintained mainstream schools on 23rd January.
- 5.2 The table below shows the remaining significant dates in the 2014-15 budget process.

Date	Item	Notes
14/03/14	Send Early Years budgets to schools and PVI's (DfE deadline is 31 st March)	
14/03/14	Send High Needs budgets to Mainstream Schools and Special Schools	

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 None.

Method of Consultation

- 7.2 Not applicable.

Representations Received

- 7.3 Not applicable.

Background Papers

None.

Contact for further information

Atul Lad (Principal Accountant, ECS)
(01753 875547)
atul.lad@slough.gov.uk

Schools Forum Key Decisions Log		
Issue and Decision	Schools Forum date	Schools Forum agenda item no.
Fair Funding Formula Consultation for 2013 - 14	12/09/12	
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
Confirmation of DSG Allocation 2012 - 13		
Schools Forum acknowledged final DSG allocation 2012 - 13 and confirmed outline Schools Budget	12/09/12	7
Headroom	12/09/12	
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
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
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
Fair Funding Formula Consultation for 2013 - 14		
It was confirmed that, for formula purposes, Claycots 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
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
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
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
It was confirmed that the £70,000 for Littledown School was formally approved at the last SSEF meeting.	24/10/12	3
Fair Funding Formula 2013 - 14		
Schools Forum recommended the following proposals to the Council for approval:	24/10/12	5

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
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
Agreed to distribute deprivation funding using 51% free school meals (Ever 6 FSM) and 49% IDACI.	24/10/12	5
Agreed the recommended model for pupil mobility which maps the current turbulence factor to the compliant mobility factor.	24/10/12	5
Agreed the standard lump sum factor.	24/10/12	5
Agreed the split site factor – the final unit value to be confirmed by January 2013.	24/10/12	5
Agreed the factor for rates and PFI. Current formula factors are replicated in the recommended model.	24/10/12	5
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
De-delegation of Trade Union staff costs was agreed for 2013/14.	24/10/12	5
Growth Fund		
Schools Forum agreed to retain relevant central funding for significant pupil growth.	24/10/12	5
Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF)		
Schools Forum endorsed the proposals put forward by the Task and Finish group: simplifying the formula by reducing it to 3 factors: 1) Staffing; 2) Central costs and 3) Deprivation with differentiation across different sizes of providers. These factors combine to provide an hourly rate. Deprivation to be based on IDACI and Free School Meals.	17/01/13	5
Split site factor		
Schools Forum agreed that the split site factor criteria in the 5-16 main funding formula should be: "A split site is where a school operates on two (or more) distinctly separate sites. The sites will be in separate, not adjacent streets and not connected by a footpath".	17/01/13	6
Funding Formula 5 - 16 primary: secondary ratio		
No consensus was reached regarding the two options considered: the status quo of 1:1.43 and 1: 1.39. It was agreed that views of Primary Headteachers would be sought following the meeting and it would also be considered at SASH. If no formal agreement could be reached there would be a vote arranged for those Schools Forum members eligible to vote. The result of the vote would be communicated to the LA to inform the LA decision prior to submission to the DfE.	17/01/13	6
<i>Note: A vote was later held regarding the two models proposed for primary / secondary ratio (1:1.43 and 1:1.39) and the Schools Forum vote did not provide a consensus with the vote being in favour of 1:1.43 (11 votes to 6). The final LA decision was to move to the ratio of 1:1.39.</i>	n/a	n/a
Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF)		
Deprivation to be based on Free School Meals	27/02/13	3
Funding Formula 5 - 16		
It was agreed that further work to review the needs led principles behind the formula should be continued immediately with initial research being done to identify potential sources of expertise for the research, prior to any further financial modelling work.	27/02/13	6
Schools Forum Constitution		
The updated Schools Forum Constitution was approved.	27/02/13	8
Membership		

One current vacancy in the maintained membership will not be filled (leaving 8 members). The Primary Headteachers group to elect 2 members to fill the maintained schools vacancies. Academy proprietors are asked to elect an additional academy representative (giving 8 academy members) and to consider this being a secondary governor representative to reflect phase balance. Nominations to be brought back to Schools Forum in May. Nicky Willis was approved as substitute for Barbara Clark and Gill Denham for Gillian Coffey	20/03/13	5
Two Year Old Funding Formula It was agreed that the formula based on staffing and central costs as set out in the report be recommended to the LA for implementation.	08/05/13	5
School specific contingency and LA budgets funded by DSG - Outturn 2012/13 Schools Forum agreed that £780,000 be retained for potential overspend on High Needs and Early Years funding. Further areas to return to Schools Forum for later review and decision.	03/07/13	4
Scheme for Financing Schools It was agreed that the updated Scheme for Financing Schools be put on the SBC website.	03/07/13	7
Two Year Old Funding Formula Schools Forum agreed the revisions to the Early Years 2 Year Old Funding Formula as set out in the report and recommended the formula to the LA for implementation.	03/07/13	9
Membership Paul Adams joined Schools Forum as an academy governor representative; one community primary vacancy has been filled by Navroop Mehat of Wexham Court Primary; a review of the balance of membership across academies and maintained schools to be undertaken by the Chair over the summer.	03/07/13	12
Chair and Vice-Chair Maggie Waller was elected Chair and John Constable Vice-Chair	11/09/13	1
School Balances It was agreed that if, at any time in the future, there is an option to claw back money from a school, this would come back to Schools Forum.	11/09/13	6
New Schools and Early Years Finance Regulations - DfE Consultation It was agreed that a joint LA and Schools Forum response would be submitted to the DfE	11/09/13	7
Membership It was agreed that the Chair would write to all Academies with a recommendation to fill the primary academy member vacancy to provide a balance of primary and secondary representation i.e. 4 primary and 4 secondary members and to recommend the appointment of Jon Reekie as primary representative; agreement to the appointment of Nicky Willis to the next vacancy; to seek any alternative nomination	11/09/13	8
It was agreed that the Chair would write to Chairs of Governors of maintained primary schools to seek nominations and Maggie Stacey would also raise this with primary Headteachers	11/09/13	8
Membership Hardip Singh, Khalsa Primary School was appointed as a Governor Primary Representative for Maintained Schools. Julie O'Brien, Our Lady of Peace Junior School was endorsed as Primary Maintained School Headteachers' representative.	16/10/13	3
DSG Centrally Retained Budgets Schools Forum agreed the need for a framework to be agreed for reporting to Schools Forum to enable any recommendations or decisions to be made regarding any relevant DSG centrally retained items. A process is to be built into the Work Programme.	16/10/13	6
High Needs Financial Sustainability Policy Schools Forum endorsed the High Needs Financial Sustainability Policy, subject to a timeframe being added in to the criteria. It was noted that an annual report on the policy's operation should be provided for Schools Forum.	16/10/13	7
Carbon Reduction		

Schools Forum approved payment of £114,168.94 for the Carbon Reduction Commitment for 2012-13 via the potential in year DSG underspend for 2013-14.	16/10/13	8
Memberships		
Debbie Richards was welcomed as the new member representing maintained special schools.	15/11/13	3
Jon Reekie was welcomed as academy primary representative and Ni ky Willis as reserve for next relevant academy vacancy.	15/11/13	3
Repayment		
It was noted that St Joseph's has now repaid £400,000 to the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)	15/11/13	3
Review of Accountability for Central Budgets		
The process for Schools Forum scrutiny and review of expenditure in centrally retained budgets was agreed: a report will be brought in July each year with the out turn figures and a brief explanation of spend and this will inform the Schools Forum decisions about the following year's budgets.	15/11/13	7
Free Schools		
Schools Forum agreed that the £30,000 agreed to be allocated at the July 2012 meeting to support the development of secondary school free school applications now be allocated equally to The SASH School, Lynch Hill and Khlasa. It was noted that this was honouring an historical decision and did not set a precedent.	15/11/13	3
Memberships		
It was recommended that when the January review of membership is done, Helen Huntley be recommended to the Academies as a nomination for PRU / special school representation.	11/12/13	3
Nicky Willis was approved as substitute for Gillian Coffey.	11/12/13	3
Split Site Factor		
The Split Site Factor was agreed at a value of £34,300.	11/12/13	5
Half Year DSG Forecast		
Schools Forum agreed that from the forecasted underspend of £871,000, £500,000 be allocated to 14/15 budgets (£400,000 to the Schools Block and £100,000 for the High Needs block). £300,000 from last year's unspent central DSG agreed to be added to the Schools Block for 14/15. Schools Forum also agreed that the previously reported Contingency figure of £708,293 from 2012-13 should be split: £567,293 to the schools block and £141,000 to the high needs block.	11/12/13	6
Centrally Retained DSG		
Schools Forum agreed centrally retained budgets for 2014/15 but with some items requiring further clarification. A full list will be included in this log after the January meeting. (Included below - February 2014).	11/12/13	8
De-delegated Budgets: Behaviour Support Service and Trades Union		
The primary and secondary maintained school representatives present at the meeting voted to de-delegate both the Trades Union and Behaviour Support Services funding.	11/12/13	9
2014-15 Budget Process Update		
Noted that Mobility Factor had been removed as agreed previously and funding has been added to social deprivation.		
Schools Forum agreed to endorse the recommendation regarding the unit values for the formula factors for 2014/15, noting that this moved the primary: secondary ratio to 1: 1.38 but registering concern about the impact.	15/01/14	4
Schools Forum noted that the following amounts have been added to the 2014-15 Schools Block from previous years' underspends: £567,293 from the 2012-13 unspent contingency; £300,000 from the remaining 2012-13 DSG underspend and £400,000 from the estimated 2013-14 underspend.	15/01/14	4
Growth Fund		
Schools Forum agreed to accept the recommendation to increase the Growth Fund by £1.2 million to £1.5 million for 2014/15 to enable funding to be provided for agreed permanent expansions after the first year. (Note: currently the Growth Fund criteria only allows support for agreed bulge classes and the first year of an agreed permanent expansion.)	15/01/14	5
2014-15 DSG Blocks (Schools Block)		

Schools Forum noted that £28,000 previously held to fund a KS3 Coordinator has been returned to schools' budgets; it was agreed that the £30,000 for Broadband maintenance be held for 2014/15 and included in the Cambridge Education Review of centrally held expenditure.	15/01/14	6
Schools Forum noted the estimated Schools Block but subject to clarification of the funding from the Council relating to the PFI factor being confirmed. The Chair is to request clarification from the Council of the PFI figures implicit in the estimated Schools' Block figures and confirmation regarding the Council's contribution to the 'affordability gap'.	15/01/14	6
2014-15 DSG Blocks (High Needs Block)		
Schools Forum noted a verbal update that the PFI figure in the report was updated to £309,000, having been £29,542 in the published papers.	15/01/14	7
Schools Forum noted the estimated High Needs Block but subject to clarification of the overall funding from the Council relating to the PFI factor being confirmed. The Chair is to request clarification and confirmation from the Council regarding the Council's contribution to the 'affordability gap'.	15/01/14	7
2014-15 DSG Blocks (Early Years Block)		
Schools Forum noted the estimated Early Years Block for 2014-15 and agreed the carry forward into 2014/15 for two year old funding. Schools Forum agreed two central expenditure items: £41,070 for Behaviour Support and £1,428 for Trades Union duties.	15/01/14	8
DSG Centrally Held Budgets 2014-15 - starting position		
Update to this log bringing together all centrally retained budgets agreed by Schools Forum over December 2013 and January 2014 meetings		
High Needs Block	£	
Support for Inclusion		
F406 Inclusion Management	103600	
F166 Hard to Place Protocol	267000	
F430 Vulnerable Children	61700	
F417 Vulnerable Children	251770	
F191 Early Years Inclusion	70000	
F321 Roma Community Project	15200	
F235 Traveller' Service (DSG)	27400	
SEN Support Services		
F406 Inclusion Management	6340	
F446 Educ Resource Services (former LACES)	106780	
F410 Autism	185730	
F417 Sensory Impairment	470000	
F460 SENASS	399300	
F461 Retained SENASS	182000	
SEN Transport		
F413 SEN Transport	40000	
EOTAS		
F418 Haybrook Provision (EOTAS)	130995	
Schools Block		
F169 Admissions (DSG)	178180	
F840 Schools Forum	53055	
E903 Schools Apportionment (AN)	149100	

Slough Schools' Forum – 2013-14 Work Programme

Wednesday 26 February 2014

- Quarter 3 Budget Monitoring 2013-14
- 2014-15 Budget Process Update
- Cambridge Education
- Academies update
- 2013-14 Work programme and Key Decisions log

Wednesday 19 March 2014

- 2014-15 Budget Process Update
- Growth Fund Outturn
- PFI
- Schools Forum Operational and Decision Making Framework
- Cambridge Education
- Academies update
- 2013-14 Work programme and Key Decisions log
- Membership

Wednesday 7 May 2014

- Review of Scheme for Financing Schools
- Cambridge Education
- Academies update
- 2014-15 Work programme and Key Decisions log

Wednesday 2 July 2014

- Schools Outturn 2013-14
- Central Outturn 2013-14
- School Budget Plans 2014-15
- Confirmation of Final DSG allocations 2014-15 (subject to DfE notification date)
- Cambridge Education – review outcomes and financial implications
- Academies update
- Dates of meetings – 2014-15 academic year
- 2014-15 Work programme and Key Decisions log

September 2014

- DSG Centrally held items discussion begins
- Cambridge Education
- Academies update
- 2014-15 Work programme and Key Decisions log

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