

SLOUGH SCHOOLS FORUM

SCHOOLS FORUM MEMBERS:

Maggie Waller (Chair), John Constable (Vice-Chair), Virginia Barrett, Gillian Coffey, Sally Eaton, Philip Gregory, Kathleen Higgins, Helen Huntley, Paul McAteer, Navroop Mehat, Angela Mellish, Carol Pearce, Jon Reekie, Debbie Richards, Jo Rockall, Hardip Singh, Emma Slaughter and Nicky Willis

OBSERVERS:

Lynda Bussley and Education Funding Agency

ATTENDEES:

Councillor Mann

LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY:

Krutika Pau, Paul Wilson, Coral Miller and Joanne Cooke (Clerk)

CAMBRIDGE EDUCATION:

Robin Crofts

DATE & TIME:

WEDNESDAY, 6TH MAY, 2015 AT 8.00 AM FOR 8.15AM

VENUE:

BEECHWOOD RESEARCH AND CONFERENCE CENTRE,
LONG READINGS LANE, SLOUGH, BERKSHIRE, SL2 1QE

AGENDA

Page

1. Apologies
2. Declarations of Interest

All Members who believe they have a Disclosable Pecuniary or other Pecuniary or non pecuniary Interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting must declare that interest and, having regard to the circumstances described in Section 3 paragraphs 3.25 – 3.27 of the Councillors' Code of Conduct, leave the meeting while the matter is discussed, save for exercising any right to speak in accordance with Paragraph 3.28 of the Code.

The Chair will ask Members to confirm that they do not have a declarable interest.

All Members making a declaration will be required to complete a Declaration of Interests at Meetings form detailing the nature of their interest.

- | | | |
|-----|---|------------------------|
| 3. | Minutes of the Meeting held on 25th March 2015 | (Pages 1 - 8) |
| 4. | School Improvement Budget 2015-16 Update from Cambridge Education | (Pages 9 - 12) |
| 5. | PFI School Improvement Savings | (Pages 13 - 22) |
| 6. | Growth Fund Outturn 2014-15 | (Pages 23 - 26) |
| 7. | High Needs Block Centrally Retained 2015/16 | (Pages 27 - 34) |
| 8. | Cambridge Education | |
| 9. | Academies update | |
| 10. | Work programme and Key Decisions log | (Pages 35 - 44) |

Slough Schools Forum – Meeting held on Wednesday, 25th March 2015

Present: Maggie Waller, Holy Family Primary School (Chair)
John Constable, Langley Grammar (Vice-Chair)
Gillian Coffey, Lynch Hill Primary School
Philip Gregory, Baylis Court Nursery School
Kathleen Higgins, Beechwood Secondary School
Helen Huntley, Haybrook College
Paul McAteer, Slough and Eton C of E Business & Enterprise College
Navroop Mehat, Wexham Court Primary School
Angela Mellish, St Bernard's Grammar School
Debbie Richards, Arbour Vale School
Jo Rockall, Herschel Grammar School
Hardip Singh, Khalsa Primary School
Nicky Willis, Cippenham Primary School
Jean Cameron, Slough Children's Centres

Observers: Sally Eaton, Eddie Neighbour

Officers: Samantha Taylor, Coral Miller, Paul Wilson, Nandita Sirker and Joanne Cooke, Robin Crofts (Cambridge Education), Tony Smith (Cambridge Education)

Apologies: Jon Reekie, Virginia Barrett, Matt Redwood, Lynda Bussley and Jane Wood

PART I

396. Apologies

Apologies were received from Virginia Barrett, Jon Reekie, Lynda Bussley, Matt Redwood and Jane Wood.

Introductions were made around the table and Maggie Waller welcomed Sally Eaton to the meeting as an observer, with a view to taking on the role of member representing the PVI's. Maggie Waller also welcomed Joanne Cooke as the new Clerk and thanked Samantha Taylor for her support as Clerk at the last meeting.

Jean Cameron leaves the Forum today and Maggie Waller thanked her for her valuable contributions and support to both the Schools Forum and the Early Years Task and Finish Group over many years and wished her well.

Maggie advised that a new member to represent Children's Centres was being sought. (*Since advised: Emma Slaughter, Interim Head of Children's Centres*).

397. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

398.

Minutes of Previous Meeting – 14th January 2015

Maggie Waller informed the Forum that the PFI Task and Finish Group had been cancelled as it was not adding value at this stage. It could be rescheduled at a later date. Kathleen Higgins reported that no meetings with the PFI schools had yet been held.

It was reported that the £500,000 previously removed from the DSG in 2014/15 in respect of PFI has been returned and will be distributed to all schools and academies imminently. The £500,000 for 2015/16, removed in error, will also be returned to schools and Coral Miller will provide more information on this at the May 2015 meeting

Maggie Waller added that The Early Years Group met in February and is due to meet again in June.

Coral Miller informed the Forum that the additional monies nett of pensions had gone out to schools and that academies are getting direct allocations. Paul McAteer mentioned that academy Heads met with representatives from the Berkshire Pensions regarding value for money and it had been clarified that there is no option but to be in this scheme.

Paul McAteer suggested that it would be a useful task for the Task and Finish group to look at the differences between the modelling it used as the basis for recommendations, compared to final academies' budgets. Coral Miller agreed to provide each academy with the information sent to the EFA by SBC. John Constable, Paul McAteer, Jo Rockall and Nicky Willis agreed that they would then look at this against their final budgets and bring their analysis to the next Task and Finish group (in June). Coral also agreed to send this information as a matter of course in future years.

Nicky Willis reported having met with Jo Mathews to discuss the unit cost split between primary and secondary Schools for SEBDOS de-delegated funds. It appeared that SEBDOS funding is currently allocated with two thirds to primary schools and one third to secondary schools. Robin Crofts explained that the allocation of funding had been based in the past on the patterns of work across phases. Helen Huntley suggested that she and Jo Mathews provide a written proposal for the Task and Finish group to inform an equitable split.

Jo Rockall reported that SASH had written to SBC regarding the Looked After Children Pupil Premium and concerns about the retained element of this. She agreed to share the response with Schools Forum members. Nicky Willis reported that Ruth Bagley had attended SPHA and that primary Headteachers supported the SASH response.

The Minutes were approved.

399. Commissioning of Places in Special Settings

Paul Wilson presented a short paper on SEN Commissioned Places 2015-16. This included numbers of top ups. It was noted that the data used for the spreadsheet is sourced from DfE. There was some discussion about the accuracy of the figures and Nandita Sinker agreed to check. It was noted that Post 16 places are not funded from the DSG but direct from the EFA.

Paul drew attention to paragraph 3.13 which shows a potential forecast increase in primary of 6% and in secondary of 4% for 2016-2017.

Nandita Sinker suggested looking into more recent data in more detail. She suggested that a comparison between the figures in the report and work carried out recently by Alex Bowman would be a useful exercise; this information could then be circulated to the Schools' Forum. Nandita noted that there should be an annual review of places. It was agreed that a report would come to the Schools Forum in the autumn with updated figures. Philip Gregory asked that nursery places be included in future.

Nandita Sinker explained that both she and Paul Wilson are interims with SBC and will eventually leave SBC and, in the medium term, they are looking to recruit permanent members of staff to replace them. Whilst the quality of staff is high, Schools Forum expressed concern about the lack of continuity in staffing and the impact this has. Forum welcomed the plans to replace on a permanent basis. It was agreed that the Chair and Vice Chair would write to SBC to express this.

400. High Needs Block 2015/16

Coral Miller presented a paper outlining the budget of £21,503,815 which includes a contingency for growth figure of just over £600,000 which was carried forward from 2014. Nandita Sinker said that a business case will be made to the DfE to seek additional funding as there is a higher need than predicted. Coral Miller said that the budget was vulnerable as there is this reliance on carry forward which may not be available in future years. It was suggested that bands may have to be revisited.

Helen Huntley expressed concern of the impact this could have on special settings and their ability to meet needs, particularly in Alternative Provision. There the DfE had raised the base line funding from £8,000 to £10,000 but the top ups have decreased already by the same amount so that there has been no improvement in the funding.

There was discussion about the centrally retained budgets.

Debbie Richards asked why there was no reference to speech and language funding on the breakdown (Appendix A). Nandita Sinker explained that it is within the figure for mainstream support for pupils with sensory needs.

A detailed breakdown of the £206,700 for direct educational support for looked after children and the Virtual Head Service was requested and Coral Miller will provide a breakdown on this.

Maggie Waller asked about the sum of £149,491 labelled as Non Controllable. Coral Miller explained that these are indirect costs for a share of SBC overheads, building costs etc and were the same as last year.

Helen Huntley questioned the figure of £130,995 for Education provision other than at School at Haybrook and said that this does not go to Haybrook. Coral Miller will clarify and provide detail.

Kathleen Higgins expressed concern that monies should not simply be put into contingency but be spent on pupils. Nandita Sirker explained that the contingency fund was there for issues such as tribunals and agreed that how the contingency was spent should be more transparent. Coral Miller will provide a more detailed breakdown.

Robin Crofts is producing a paper outlining the centrally retained funds for Cambridge Education for the Forum meeting in May and it was agreed that additional detail on the SBC budgets also be included in that report.

401. Early Years Centrally Held DSG 2015/16

Coral Miller presented a paper and two appendices outlining the 2015/16 Early Years centrally held budget and a summary of the whole Early Years block budget 2015/16 including forecast growth.

Nicky Willis asked if the funding for Early Years behaviour support goes to SEBDOS and it was noted that it does. The centrally held budgets were agreed.

Coral Miller explained that the surplus and shortfall figure of -£682,472 on Appendix B – Draft Estimate Early Year Block Budget Reconciliation - is expected to be paid by the DfE in June.

402. Slough Learning Partnership/Local Authority/Cambridge Education Joint Proposal for School Development – 2015/16

A report was circulated to the Forum entitled School Improvement Provision. This report had been published as a supplementary item for the agenda.

John Constable explained that this was a joint report from the LA, SLP and Cambridge Education. He explained that this paper is for information: providing background; clarifying roles and responsibilities and setting out proposals for the future. There will be a more detailed discussion at the next Forum when Cambridge Education will report specific figures. John drew attention to a number of sections of the report including page 4 which explains proposed support for school

improvement and school development from September 2015 onwards and page 3 which defines both terms.

Tony Smith explained that Cambridge Education is responsible for the LA statutory school improvement service and provides 'intervention' but not support. It was agreed the message should be kept consistent and should be referred to as providing "intervention".

It was noted that any possible reduction in the sum required by Cambridge Education could be redistributed to schools. Robin Crofts erred caution in that any such reduction in central funding cannot be reversed at a later date.

John Constable explained that funding streams for the SLP (page 7 of the report) were based on an assumption of no carry forward from last year and that if there was a carry forward that would minimise the need to come to Schools Forum seeking additional funding.

Maggie Waller said that the report was very helpful in defining the relevant parties' responsibilities and roles and a useful basis for the next report in May.

403. Review of Cost of Provision

A paper on the independent review of the cost of provision in schools and academies was circulated. Carrying out a review had been proposed at the January Task and Finish Group and endorsed by Cabinet. The aim, as outlined in the paper, is to understand the costs of provision across a range of types and size of school and academy in Slough.

Maggie Waller and John Constable met with Ruth Bagley and Coral Miller on Monday, 23rd March. There had been work done to identify potential appropriate providers for such a piece of research e.g. the London School of Economics, an education consultancy and Henley Business College. Nandita also suggested Birkbeck College Research as a possible provider. In addition, the DfE is carrying out a large piece of work to look at costs and efficiencies in schools and Maggie Waller has been in touch to suggest that Slough would be a good place to carry out field work.

The timescale for the review would be the end of April to tender and the work to be carried out in June - July. It was noted that the aim is to have the work complete for the autumn to enable Schools Forum and the LA to be best placed to respond to any future DfE consultations on a national funding formula.

This research will be funded from the Schools Forum budget and it is estimated that the cost should not be more than £15,000.

Maggie Waller explained that the work would be jointly commissioned. However, Ruth Bagley had suggested that this could be done through LA procurement. Nandita Sirker said that she will have a conversation with the Procurement Department. It was noted that, if there was any

potential delay in procurement, Schools Forum could procure through one of its members as has been done previously.

Maggie Waller asked the Forum to consider the paper, which would be circulated electronically following the meeting, and to discuss with colleagues and get back to her by 17th April with any comments. Nicky Willis and Jo Rockall agreed to circulate to the two Headteacher phase groups.

Maggie Waller referred to a recent debate by the Association of School and College Leaders (ACSL) at its March conference on the gap in schools' funding between the best and worst-funded schools. Information can be found here:

http://www.ascl.org.uk/news-and-views/news_news-detail.gap-between-best-and-worst-funded-schools-equivalent-to-40-teachers.html

Maggie Waller also referred to the recent publication by the DfE of an analysis of LAs' schools block funding formulae 2015 - 2016. This is useful information allowing members to see how Slough compares to others and how the local formula is made up. This information can be found here:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schools-block-funding-formulae-2015-to-2016?utm_source=EFA%20e-bulletin&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=e-bulletin&mxmroi=2305-13333-21679-0

404. Cambridge Education

Tony Smith explained that, as Slough has a below average percentage of primary schools that have been identified by Ofsted as Good or Outstanding, Cambridge Education is continuing to work to get schools to a stronger place. He indicated that there is a possibility of scrutiny by Ofsted of School Improvement.

The Ofsted Inspection of Slough Children's Centres in March 2014 was graded Inadequate. Five Ofsted inspectors visited Children's Centres last week and initial verbal feedback was positive. Whilst there is some distance to travel, significant progress has been made since 2014. The formal report will be available in two to three weeks (*now available on the Ofsted website*).

School attendance has been very good over the last eighteen months but with a small drop in attendance in the autumn term in both phases and this is currently being reviewed.

A higher number of families have been allocated their first preferences in the recent admissions process for secondary schools: 72%, up from 62% previously.

Transport costs: contractual arrangements are being reviewed, with the Local Authority and Cambridge Education looking at efficiencies.

405. Academies Update

Nationally, there is little activity in terms of conversion before purdah (which begins on Friday 27th March). It was noted that the government appears keen to convert a school in Norfolk to an academy prior to purdah but this was unlikely to be possible.

406. Work Programme and Key Decisions Log

The Work Programme and Key Decisions Log were noted.

407. AOB

Maggie Waller informed the Forum that Schools Forum induction training has been arranged for 17th April at 10.00am at Langley Hall Primary Academy. All those who attend Schools Forum and any substitutes that have been approved by Forum are welcome to attend. Anyone who has not notified Maggie Waller that they wish to attend was asked to do so as soon as possible.

Membership: an analysis of pupil numbers in academies and schools had been done following the January pupil census. In order to reflect the higher number of pupils being educated in academies, the Schools Forum vacancies that need to be filled are for 2 primary and 1 secondary academy member. John Constable is to write to academy proprietors seeking nominations.

(Note: The Meeting opened at 8.15 a.m. and closed and 9.50 a.m.)

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School improvement provision**SBC, Cambridge Education, Slough Learning Partnership & Slough Teaching School Alliance**

The full version of this paper was tabled at the March meeting of the Slough Schools Forum but did not include the detailed breakdown of the centrally retained element of DSG assigned to 'school improvement'. This version of Appendix A replaces that in the original paper.

Appendix A**School Improvement activities provided or commissioned by Cambridge Education on behalf of Slough Borough Council**

The centrally retained 'school improvement' budget (approx. £1.2 million originally allocated for 2015/16) will support:

| Area | Budget (£) |
|--|----------------|
| School Admissions | 178,180 |
| School Improvement Support (improvement and standards: early support, monitoring, challenge and intervention) | 629,725 |
| Education, School Improvement and Raising Standards leadership, management, business and administrative support with on costs | 95,000 |
| Local Authority Safeguarding Children Board: Schools' contribution to the Board | 30,000 |
| Total | 932,905 |

Current Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) centrally retained element (2014-15) is £1,243,151

New proposed spend **£932,905**

Reduction in allocation **£310,246**

The 'school support' work referred to above can be considered under the following broad headings:

| Function | Budget (£) |
|---|------------|
| <p>Early support, monitoring, challenge and intervention: Use of School Improvement specialists. <i>This is a reduction in funding from the annual figure to date of £440,000.</i></p> <p>This is to cover:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Autumn Term Visits (ATVs): compulsory for all maintained schools (23; 46% of all Slough schools), and optional visits for academies on request (16 – 60% of academies - out of 27 academies proposed for this Autumn Term) Support, monitoring, challenge and intervention for maintained schools in difficulty during the year as a result of Ofsted inspection or issues arising from the ATV Targeted support on areas of agreed curriculum focus and vulnerable pupil groups where emphasis is on closing the gap: to be encompassed in the new Children and Young People's Plan | 300,000 |

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Budget to support schools in intervention: to facilitate school to school support and achieve rapid and sustainable progress. This allocation of funding to schools is primarily related to addressing challenges around leadership and management, teaching and learning and curriculum development. | 130,000 |
| System leaders: Development of support networks available to schools facing significant and unexpected leadership and management issues, where in some instances rapid responses are required. Areas being developed are associated with securing the rapid availability of head teachers, members of senior leadership teams, bursars/business managers and governors. | 45,000 |
| School to school support: (Proposed to commission this work) 1. Primary subject /strand development networks: £33,150 2. Secondary subject /strand development networks: £18,575 | 51,725 |
| Head teacher development. (Proposed to commission this work) | 15,000 |
| School Governance: (Proposed to commission aspects of this work: recruitment, induction, toolkit and conference programme) Needing to cover: Governance requirements specified as statutory requirements by national government and contractual requirements between the Local Authority and Cambridge Education. This addresses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appointment to committees • Setting out requirements for governing bodies: ensuring instruments of governance are in place for all maintained schools • Appointment of LA governors • Advice and support for governors • Information, including newsletter, signposting and training • Producing statements of action for schools in difficulty • Assessing governance through the Autumn Term Visits and Strategy Action Groups (SAGs) • Carrying out external reviews of governance as required by Ofsted or associated with local assessment indicating the need for review • Appointing additional governors where required • Issuing Warning Notices to governors where required • Disbanding governing bodies where necessary and pursuing Interim Executive Boards (IEBs) and the costs associated with their delivery | 60,000 |
| Supporting head teacher meetings and consultation groups | 10,000 |
| Free School Meals eligibility checking service for maximal accessing of the Pupil Premium by schools | 3,000 |
| Fischer Family Trust subscription for access by the Local Authority and access for all Slough schools and academies | 12,000 |
| CLEAPSS: is an advisory service providing support in science and technology for a consortium of local authorities and their schools including establishments for pupils with special needs | 3,000 |
| Total | 629,725 |

It is proposed that Cambridge Education (CE) commissions various strands of activity as indicated above. CE will go through due process for this to be allocated, with arrangement built in around secure procurement where emphasis is on securing value for money, building in evaluation to ensure this funding has achieved significant impact together with positive outcomes for children and young people across Slough.

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SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM
6th May 2015

PFI 2015-16
(Directorate of Wellbeing)

Purpose

To set out the options to reduce the funding pressure arising the School's PFI scheme on the overall Slough taxpayer.

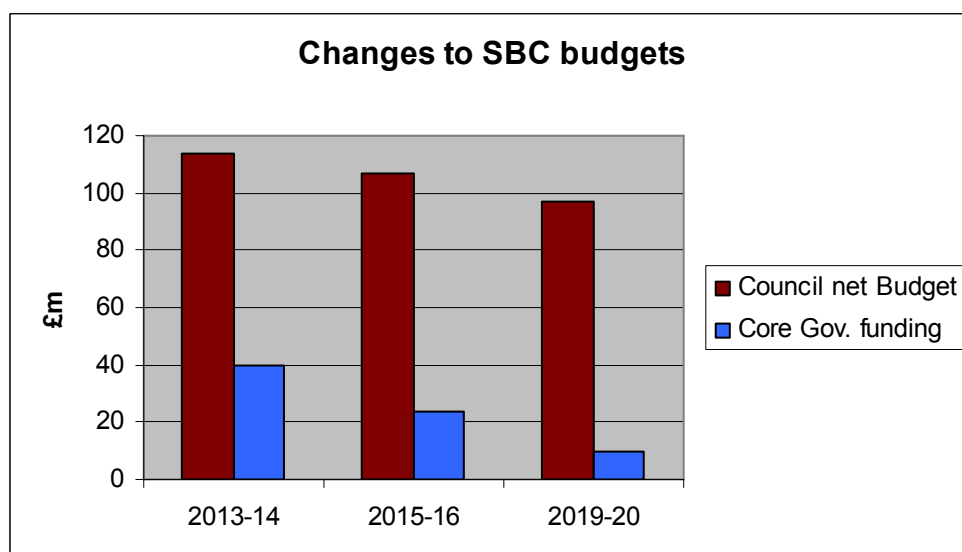
Background

Since the inception of the School's PFI scheme in Slough, there has always been a 'funding gap' between the cost of the PFI contract and the money paid via the DSG and Government PFI credits.

To enable the successful build and implementation of the School's PFI for Beechwood Secondary, Penn Wood Primary school and Arbour Vale Special school in 2007, the Council has provided funding from its General Fund for the 'funding gap'. This has totalled, since the start of the project, £6.47m, with an annual sum of £809k. Since the 2012 benchmarking exercise¹ the annual costs have increased further and at present these are being funded by the Council.

At the same time, the council's general fund budget has reduced significantly, and expected to continue to do so going forward.

Table 1.1: Summary of funding:



¹ An exercise occurring every 5 years within the contract where costs of elements of the PFI contract are benchmarked and the contract price amended as a result of this exercise

All non-PFI schools in Slough (and non-free schools) receive capital funding via the Council which comes from Central Government Grant. There is no cost to the local taxpayer for these capital works at present.

To assist in the reduction of local taxpayer contributions to the PFI schemes, the Council joined a Department For Education (DFE) sponsored pilot in 2014 through which Local Partnerships completed a review of the PFI scheme and highlighted areas for a reduction in spend within the PFI contract.

The Chair and Vice-Chair of the forum have made it clear that, wherever possible, the Council should avoid Schools suddenly facing a cliff-edge in funding reductions as part of any proposal to reduce the cost to the local taxpayer of the PFI financial contribution and this paper recognises this.

Summary

In light of the financial pressures faced by the council and following receipt of the Local Partnerships report, which comprised a review of the contract and a high-level review of possible options for cost-saving opportunities, the Council has implemented a strategy to review the outcomes of the report and develop a programme of work to take forward some of the options. The Council has engaged consultants to help it undertake this task. The work will involve prioritising options, undertaking detailed planning, establishing a negotiation strategy and negotiating with the PFI Contractor and their lenders and sub-contractors. The programme of work is estimated to take 6 months and the Forum will be updated on progress and engaged in discussion when outcomes of the negotiations are clear.

.Here is a variety of strands that are being at, see the below options:

- a) Options concerning re-financing of the PFI
- b) Review of maintenance and lifecycle costs and reserve
- c) Benchmarking review (at the next review date)
- d) Review energy / utilities costs
- e) Review scope of some services

Conclusion

There are a variety of ways to reduce the Council's costs to the PFI 'funding gap'. Through the budget setting process, members have set out that they expect to see a reduction in the Council's contribution to the PFI scheme. Below are some recommendations for the School's Forum to consider on a way forward that will enable the Council to reduce its contribution to the PFI scheme as well as mitigate some of the more dramatic reductions to the quality of service received by the respective schools.

Recommendation

The following are proposed to reduce the Council funding contribution to the School's PFI with associated expected reductions and dates

| No. | Item | Expected on-going reduction | Timescales | Comment |
|-----|---|-----------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | Development of local partnerships | tbc | Autumn 2015 | Reduction and saving to be confirmed |
| 2 | Utilisation of surplus DSG from changes to the School Improvement | £200k | May 2015 | |
| 3 | Utilisation of Schools DSG | tbc | Any contribution required would be phased in over 2 years. | |

Background papers

- 1) Report to the School's Forum – 10th December 2014

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Appendix A - School block budget 2015-16

Comparison Table

Based on Population of

| Schools | Reference | A | B | C |
|--|-----------|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| | | Original with no additional budget | Original with PFI contribution £500k budget | Estimated additional budget (B - A) |
| BAYLIS COURT SCHOOL | 8714082 | 4,589,165 | 4,589,165 | 0 |
| BEECHWOOD SCHOOL | 8714085 | 5,171,581 | 5,171,581 | 0 |
| Castleview School | 8715204 | 1,866,763 | 1,882,794 | 16,031 |
| Cippenham Infant School | 8712194 | 1,047,589 | 1,047,589 | 0 |
| Cippenham Primary School | 8715200 | 2,715,486 | 2,736,457 | 20,971 |
| Claycots Primary | 8712256 | 4,530,481 | 4,561,301 | 30,820 |
| Colnbrook C.E. Primary School | 8712003 | 842,461 | 842,461 | 0 |
| Ditton Park Academy | 8714002 | 963,834 | 971,317 | 7,483 |
| Foxborough Primary School | 8712004 | 1,509,723 | 1,509,723 | 0 |
| Godolphin Infant School | 8712196 | 1,497,064 | 1,507,209 | 10,145 |
| Herschel Grammar School | 8715407 | 3,122,020 | 3,122,020 | 0 |
| Holy Family Catholic School | 8715202 | 1,578,759 | 1,591,300 | 12,541 |
| IQRA Slough Islamic Primary School | 8713367 | 2,633,828 | 2,652,225 | 18,398 |
| James Elliman Academy | 8712002 | 2,590,476 | 2,609,110 | 18,634 |
| Khalsa Primary School | 8713366 | 1,621,687 | 1,621,687 | 0 |
| LANGLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL | 8715405 | 3,603,639 | 3,633,031 | 29,392 |
| Langley Hall Primary Academy | 8712000 | 2,763,519 | 2,785,052 | 21,533 |
| Lynch Hill Enterprise Academy | 8714001 | 555,489 | 559,692 | 4,204 |
| Lynch Hill School | 8715208 | 3,186,835 | 3,210,645 | 23,810 |
| Marish Primary School | 8713365 | 2,437,139 | 2,437,139 | 0 |
| Montem Academy | 8712005 | 3,498,116 | 3,498,116 | 0 |
| Our Lady of Peace Junior | 8713357 | 1,314,422 | 1,324,893 | 10,471 |
| OUR LADY OF PEACE R.C.INFANT | 8713353 | 1,124,916 | 1,124,916 | 0 |
| PARLAUNT PARK PRIMARY ACADEMY | 8712007 | 2,524,300 | 2,542,195 | 17,895 |
| Penn Wood Primary and Nursery School | 8712255 | 2,837,633 | 2,837,633 | 0 |
| Pippins School | 8715207 | 703,895 | 709,130 | 5,235 |
| Priory School | 8715201 | 2,799,701 | 2,821,145 | 21,444 |
| Ryvers School | 8715209 | 2,115,395 | 2,131,397 | 16,002 |
| Slough & Eton C of E Business & Enterprise College | 8714510 | 5,886,606 | 5,886,606 | 0 |
| ST ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY | 8713364 | 2,077,198 | 2,092,046 | 14,848 |
| St Bernard's Catholic Grammar School | 8714700 | 2,922,675 | 2,947,010 | 24,334 |
| St Joseph's Catholic High School | 8714800 | 3,733,716 | 3,759,054 | 25,338 |
| St. Ethelbert's Catholic Primary School | 8713363 | 1,549,227 | 1,560,408 | 11,180 |
| St. Mary's C E Primary School | 8713070 | 2,144,289 | 2,159,167 | 14,878 |
| The Godolphin Junior School | 8712221 | 1,683,603 | 1,683,603 | 0 |
| The Langley Academy | 8716905 | 5,089,497 | 5,104,313 | 14,816 |
| THE WESTGATE SCHOOL | 8715409 | 4,965,761 | 4,999,715 | 33,954 |
| Upton Court Grammar School | 8715408 | 3,693,139 | 3,721,931 | 28,791 |
| Western House Academy | 8712006 | 2,303,912 | 2,321,393 | 17,481 |
| Wexham Court Primary School | 8712252 | 2,386,772 | 2,404,489 | 17,717 |
| Wexham School | 8714089 | 5,441,763 | 5,441,763 | 0 |
| Willow Primary School | 8712001 | 1,653,884 | 1,665,538 | 11,654 |
| GRAND TOTAL | | 111,277,957 | 111,777,957 | 500,000 |

PLEASE NOTES:

- A. Show the original 2015-16 school block budget which did not include the PFI contribution from Slough Borough council.
- B. Show the original 2015-16 school block budget which includes the PFI contribution from Slough Borough council. The reduction for PFI goes through the model so the contribution to fund this should go through the model too. The £500k will be refunded to all schools in the school block via NOR, the new schools will also receive a share.
- C. Additional increase per school.

NOTE: That £500k contribution will be part of the future budgets regardless of what decision is made.

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SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM
6th May 2015

School Improvement Savings suggested allocation 2015-16
(Directorate of Wellbeing)

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Schools' Forum that savings of £308k have been identified in the centrally-retained budgets for School Improvement in 2014-15.
- 1.2 To ask Schools' Forum for permission to use £200k of these savings to contribute to the Council's funding of the schools' PFI scheme.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that this saving be kept within the centrally retained budget and used in a different way for the following reasons:
 - Once this money is taken back from the centrally retained budget it can never be returned
 - The Council has made savings of over £31m over the past three years and is required to deliver further savings of 35% of its budget over the next four years. With these planned future cuts it is now making it difficult for the Council to carry on funding this commitment.
 - Each year the LA will continue to come to the Schools' Forum to gain approval for the centrally held items and in that meeting the School Forum can change the proposal. Hence this is a one year commitment.
- 2.2 Please see Appendix A which outlines the future school block increase which will be put through the Slough's Authority Proforma Tool in future years.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1.1 The Council is facing significant pressures to balance its budget under the current financial constraint from central Government. Savings are required of £34m over the next four years.
- 3.1.2 The Council has been innovative in reducing its budget in recent years with a variety of transformation and efficiency schemes to deliver savings. However, the 2015-16 budget contained significant disinvestment, and in light of the financial planning assumptions, this will continue over the medium term.
- 3.1.3 Non-ringfenced grants, like the Education Services Grant (ESG), has been reduced year on year by the DFE, and is also reduced by Academy conversions. The Council currently does not link education-

related spend to the ESG; if it did, there would be significant reductions to education-related support services to Schools.

3.1.4 The schools' and Academies' budget has remained relatively stable with a maximum yearly reduction of £1.5%.

3.1.5 The Local Authority is asking the School's Forum to assist the Council in achieving its savings plans to ensure as many priority services, including those to Schools, can continue to be delivered.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 Not applicable.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

5.1 Not applicable.

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.

Contact for further information

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SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM
6th May 2015

Growth Fund 2014-15
(Directorate of Wellbeing)

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Schools' Forum of the 2014-15 Growth Fund out-turn and to confirm the amount that will be carried forward to the 2015-16 Growth fund.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Slough Borough Council recommends that the 14-15 underspend of £400,052 be carried forward. This figure is slightly more than the expected carried forward of £312k which was agreed in December 2014. Again this underspend can only be used for the Growth Fund.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Slough Borough Council has a rising school population with an increase from last year of 695 children. This level of growth suggests that there will be a future need for the Growth Fund.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 None considered.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 **Please see Appendix A.** 2014-15 Budget and Estimated Growth out-turn.

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

- 6.1 Not applicable.

Section 151 Officer – Strategic Director of Resources

- 6.2 Not applicable.

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

Coral Miller (Interim Principal Accountant, ECS)
(01753 477209)
coral.miller@slough.gov.uk

APPENDIX A

2014-15 Growth Fund Out-turn

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| AWPU (2014-15) | 3,184.90 |
| Pupils per Class | 30 |
| Full Year Growth Funding per Class | 95,547.03 |
| Non-Academies (Sept 14 - March 15) | 55,735.77 |
| Academies (Apr 14 - Aug 14) | 95,547.03 |
| Academies (Sep 14 - Aug 15) | |

BUDGET 2014-15

| | | |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Topsliced from the School block as agreed at SF | 1,500,000 | 1,500,000 |
| Contribution from DFE (academies recoupmt) to fund Apr to August | | 318,490 |
| Brought forward balance from 13-14 | 54,353 | 54,353 |
| Total amount | 1,554,353 | 1,872,843 |

FORECAST 2014-15

| Ref | School | | New Pupils | No. of Classes | A | B | | | |
|---|---|-------------|------------|----------------|---|------------|----------------|---|----------------|
| | | | | | 2014-15 Growth Fund Allocation - Budget | New Pupils | No. of Classes | 2014-15 Growth Fund Allocation - Out-turn | Variance |
| 1 | Castleview School* | Academy | 30 | 1 | 95,547 | 30 | 1 | 95,547 | 0 |
| 2 | Cippenham Primary School* | Academy | 30 | 1 | 95,547 | 30 | 1 | 95,547 | 0 |
| | Claycots School | Non-Academy | 120 | 4 | 222,944 | 150 | 5 | 278,679 | 55,735 |
| 3 | Godolphin Infant & Junior School* | Academy | 30 | 1 | 95,547 | 30 | 1 | 95,547 | 0 |
| ** | Langley Hall Primary Academy | Academy | 52 | 2 | 191,094 | 52 | 2 | 191,094 | 0 |
| 4 | Lynch Hill School* | Academy | 30 | 1 | 95,547 | 30 | 1 | 95,547 | 0 |
| | Marish Primary School* | Academy | 60 | 2 | 95,547 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -95,547 |
| 5 | Montem Primary School* | Academy | 30 | 1 | 95,547 | 30 | 1 | 95,547 | 0 |
| | Parlaunt Park Primary School | Non-Academy | 30 | 1 | 55,736 | 30 | 1 | 55,736 | -0 |
| | Penn Wood Primary and Nursery School | Non-Academy | 30 | 1 | 55,736 | 30 | 1 | 55,736 | -0 |
| | Penn Wood Primary and Nursery School | Non-Academy | 30 | 1 | 55,736 | 30 | 1 | 55,736 | -0 |
| | Priory School | Non-Academy | 30 | 1 | 55,736 | 30 | 1 | 55,736 | -0 |
| 6 | Ryvers Primary School* | Academy | 30 | 1 | 95,547 | 30 | 1 | 95,547 | 0 |
| | St Anthony's Catholic Primary School | Non-Academy | 30 | 1 | 55,736 | 30 | 1 | 55,736 | -0 |
| | Western House School | Non-Academy | 30 | 1 | 55,736 | 30 | 1 | 55,736 | -0 |
| | Wexham Court Primary School | Non-Academy | 30 | 1 | 55,736 | 30 | 1 | 55,736 | -0 |
| 7 | Willow Primary School* | Academy | 30 | 1 | 95,547 | 90 | 3 | 286,641 | 191,094 |
| | Foxborough | Academy | 0 | 0 | | 30 | | 39,586 | 39,586 |
| | James Elliman | Academy | 0 | 0 | | | | 0 | |
| 2014-15 Budget Total | | | 652 | 22 | 1,568,566 | 712 | 23 | 1,759,432 | 190,866 |
| Adjustments | | | | | | | | | |
| | Castleview School no longer expanding for Sept. | | | | | -30 | -1 | -95,547 | -95,547 |
| ** | Langley Hall Primary Academy - Non recoupment | | | | | -52 | -2 | -191,094 | -191,094 |
| Forecasted Spend for 2014-15 | | | 652 | 22 | 1,568,566 | 630 | 20 | 1,472,791 | -95,775 |
| Estimated carried forward in 2015-16 | | | | | | | | 400,052 | |

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SLOUGH SCHOOLS' FORUM
06th May 2015

High Needs Block Centrally Retained 2015-16
(Directorate of Wellbeing)

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update the Schools Forum on the centrally retained items in the High Needs Block budget for 2015-16.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Is that the Schools Forum reviews the High Needs centrally retained items and gives its view on the budget allocation for 2015-16.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The DFE requires an annual consultation between the Local Authority and the Schools Forum on the High Needs Budget which was delivered in March 2015, however the Schools Forum had some queries on the centrally retained figure for SBC and the Cambridge Education breakdown was not available at that time. The Local Authority is complying with its statutory obligation to consult with the Schools Forum and obtain their views.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 Not applicable.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 Please see Appendix A Slough Borough Council centrally retained high needs block and Appendix B is the CE centrally retained high needs block.

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.

Contact for further information

Coral Miller (Interim Principal Accountant, ECS)
(01753 477209)
coral.miller@slough.gov.uk

APPENDIX A
HIGH NEEDS CENTRAL BREAKDOWN

SBC

| Cost centre description | Amount | Description |
|--------------------------------|----------------|--|
| Vulnerable Children | 251,770 | £231k Goes to Arbour Vale school speech and language and the other funding goes to schools according to the ledger. |
| Sensory Impairment | 470,000 | To pay for mainstream support for pupils with sensory needs in Schools |
| | 721,770 | All paid out to the schools |

| | | |
|------------------------|---------|--|
| Educ Resource Services | 106,700 | Provides direct educational support for looked after children, currently consist of 3 LAC support workers more information to follow |
|------------------------|---------|--|

| | | |
|---|------------------|---|
| "Haybrook Provision" | 130,995 | To pay for Education Other Than At School. SBC working with Haybrook on the best use of this funding within the school future plans. |
| Littledown Behavioral support | 164,280 | Paid over to Littledown School for Behavioural support services. |
| Contribution to PFI in Special needs | 182,000 | £309k provided by SBC remainder funded by the HN block. Error due to cost centre code description . |
| Contribution to PFI in Special needs | (182,000) | £309k provided by SBC remainder funded by the HN block. Removed due to the error above. |
| Retained SENASS | 182,000 | Provision for SEN services - Previously managed by JW will be managed by SEN team in future. |
| SEN support | 55,000 | Support commissioners in future planning for High needs places, this is to strengthen resources to help eliminate the errors\misunderstanding between finance and SEN team to ensure more accurate SEN estimates. More accurate information will inform better decision in future funding arrangements. Maybe this can be delivered by the funds above and this amount can go back into the provision for SEN growth. |

1,360,745

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Dedicated Schools Grant: High Needs Block 2015-16

Funding held by Cambridge Education (for passing to schools and delivering services to settings for children)

With each of these funding streams it is recommended these continue in 2015-16

| Budget Code/Title | 2015-16 Budget £ | Description of the budget | Budget Manager |
|--|------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Support for Inclusion | | | |
| M406 Funding for pupils in mainstream schools through support made available through Littledown School | 109,940 | This funding goes to Littledown Special School to support outreach provision to maintain children with social, emotional and behaviour difficulties in local mainstream schools of parental preference. | Robin Crofts |
| M166 Hard to Place Protocol | 267,000 | This is funding allocated to schools to support entry into school of those hard to place. This is a very useful arrangement to secure placements which are sustainable. The secondary Fair Access Protocol is currently under review with the primary to follow. This Protocol determines how funding is allocated to schools. | Tony Browne |
| M430 Vulnerable Children | 61,700 | Support for vulnerable groups (attendance, school refusers, teenage pregnancy, teenage parents, gypsies, travellers and Roma, young people with medical needs, young carers, weaknesses with social and emotional competencies, developmental and learning difficulties) and assisting with closing the gap between their achievement and that of their peers. Funding is available within the Integrated Support Service and School Services and Access for this purpose. This funding contributes to staffing costs across the team with a clear remit of focusing time and resources on these areas. | Tony Browne and Christine Edden |

| | | | |
|--|---------|--|--------------------------------------|
| F191 Early Years Inclusion | 70,000 | Funding for Advisory Teachers to cover early years private, voluntary and independent (PVI) sectors in identification, assessment, intervention, prevention support and advice. | Rachel Cartwright |
| F321 and F235 Access to Education | 42,600 | This funding is predominantly for the School Access Officer who arranges education for hard to place and excluded pupils, including travellers, Roma, non-attenders, school refusers etc The Access Officer seeks to avoid the breakdown of pupil places in school, and acting as a broker to re-engage pupils at the same school or facilitate managed moves to other schools of parental preference. This funding also includes the monitoring and assessment of home education which is a statutory requirement, currently shared across the Attendance Team with commissioned support from a school. | Tony Browne |
| SEN Support Services | | | |
| M410 Support for children with autism | 185,730 | This funding covers the cost of team members to provide outreach information, advice, guidance, support and training to all Slough schools supporting the inclusion of children and young people with autism as indicated in the service level agreement. | Christine Edden |
| M460 Support for children with special educational needs | 399,300 | To fund SEN specialist teachers and early years specialist support workers. This area is undergoing changes at the moment as it moves towards providing a consultant model of support and challenge to address educational standards and closing the achievement gap. M461 (62,300) is to provide support for children with learning difficulties and disabilities through the Children's Centres provision, including family support. M462 (118,000) is support, advice and training through the early years advisory service for children with learning difficulties and disabilities. These team members are engaged with assessment provision and also do home visiting. M460 (218,200) is support, advice and training for schools through advisory teachers.(This area of work is undergoing a period of transition from direct assessment and support for pupils in schools to a model which places greater emphasis on a strategic approach to SEND in schools. This will result in a reduction in the assessment of pupils and | Christine Edden Rachel Cartwright |

| | | | |
|----------------------|--------|--|-------------|
| | | direct support, alongside an increase in strategic work around: identification, assessment, (early) intervention; advice; preventative work; professional development and training; systemic work: considering the profile, organisation and structure of SEND within the school; schools fulfilling statutory requirements around SEND, accessibility and equality issues; the place and status of SEND within the Senior Leadership Team; supporting governors understanding of SEND and fulfilling responsibilities around appropriate reporting on the school's website and reporting to parents; SEND developments within the school; and the inclusive culture, environment and practice.) | |
| SEN Transport | | | |
| M413 SEN Transport | 40,000 | To provide transport mainly for under 5s with substantial SEN to access specialist provision from an early stage of development. This is to give children a high quality early start in receiving special help to reduce greater difficulties during their development and a reduction in later costs. | Tony Browne |

1,176,270

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Slough Schools' Forum – 2014-15 Work Programme

Wednesday 6th May 2015

- PFI 2015/16
- Slough Learning Partnership/Local Authority/Cambridge Education joint proposal for school development - 2015/16
- PFI School Improvement Savings
- Growth Fund Outturn 2014-15
- High Needs Block Centrally Retained 2015/16
- Cambridge Education
- Academies update
- Work programme and Key Decisions log

Wednesday 1st July 2015

- 14/15 Early Years Block carry forward and SEN Early Years inclusion fund
- Early Years: proposed Early Years formula review / changes for 2016/17
- Fair Funding / Formula review for 2016/17
- PFI
- Centrally retained budgets: annual feedback report (out turn and detail behind spend to inform decisions on following year's budgets)
- Review of Scheme for Financing Schools Forums Operational and Good Practice Guide and Self Assessment
- Taking stock item: major issues and trends to inform future work of Schools Forum
- Cambridge Education
- Academies update
- Work programme for 2015/16 academic year
- Key Decisions log
- Dates and venues of next year's meetings (to be confirmed)

Proposed meeting frequency for academic year 2015/2016

October 2015

November 2015

December 2015

January 2016

March 2016

May 2016

July 2016

Future agenda items:

SEN Commissioning of places – updated figures (autumn term)

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Schools Forum Key Decisions Log September 2013 and ongoing V5 March 2015

| Issue and Decision | Schools Forum date | Schools Forum agenda item no. | School Forum Minute |
|---|--------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Chair and Vice-Chair | | | |
| Maggie Waller was elected Chair and John Constable Vice-Chair | 11/09/13 | 1 | 241 |
| 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 | 245 |
| 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 | 246 |
| 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 | 247 |
| 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 | 247 |
| Membership | | | |
| Hardip Singh, Khalsa Primary School was appointed as a Governor Primary Representative for Maintained Schools. | 16/10/13 | 3 | 254 |
| Julie O'Brien, Our Lady of Peace Junior School was endorsed as Primary Maintained School Headteachers' representative. | | | |
| 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 | 257 |
| 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 | 258 |
| 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 | 259 |
| Membership | | | |
| Debbie Richards was welcomed as the new member representing maintained special schools. | 15/11/13 | 3 | 263 |
| Jon Reekie was welcomed as academy primary representative and Nicky Willis as reserve for next relevant academy vacancy. | 15/11/13 | 3 | 265 |
| Repayment | | | |
| It was noted that St Joseph's has now repaid £400,000 to the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) | 15/11/13 | 3 | 265 |

Schools Forum Key Decisions Log September 2013 and ongoing V5 March 2015

| | | | |
|--|----------|----|-----|
| 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 | 269 |
| 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 | 11 | 273 |
| Membership | | | |
| 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 | 276 |
| Nicky Willis was approved as substitute for Gillian Coffey. | 11/12/13 | 3 | 276 |
| Split Site Factor | | | |
| The Split Site Factor was agreed at a value of £34,300. | 11/12/13 | 5 | 278 |
| 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 | 279 |
| 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 | 281 |
| 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 | 282 |
| 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 | 291 |
| 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 | 291 |

Schools Forum Key Decisions Log September 2013 and ongoing V5 March 2015

| | | | |
|---|----------|---|-----|
| 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 | 292 |
| 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 | 293 |
| 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 | 293 |
| 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 | 294 |
| 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 | 294 |
| 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 | 295 |
| 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 | | | |

Schools Forum Key Decisions Log September 2013 and ongoing V5 March 2015

| | £ | | |
|--|--------|--|--|
| 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 | | |
| F322 Extended Schools Sustainability | 335285 | | |
| F333 Raising Standards | 576176 | | |
| F348 Primary Strategy | 26210 | | |
| F384 Gifted and Talented | 31000 | | |
| F254 Infrastructure/Broadband Con | 30000 | | |
| F260 Primary Strategy Central Coordinator | 36300 | | |
| Early Years Block | | | |
| E901 Nursery Growth | 159211 | | |
| Central Early Years Expenditure | 132070 | | |
| | | | |

Schools Forum Key Decisions Log September 2013 and ongoing V5 March 2015

| Issue and Decision | Date | Agenda item no. | Minutes |
|---|----------|-----------------|---------|
| Budget Process | | | |
| It was noted that the formula recommended by the Forum in January 2014 had been ratified by the Chief Executive and Cabinet Member for Education and submitted to the DfE. | 26/02/14 | 5 | 305 |
| Membership | | | |
| It was agreed that: Schools Forum membership should be increased to 21. Academy proprietors be asked to elect an additional academy representative, giving 9 academy members in total Academy proprietors be asked to consider this being Helen Huntley to represent the PRU and special academies. Nicky Willis also takes up vacancy as previously agreed - see 15/11/2013 above. | 19/03/14 | 11 | 320 |
| Membership | | | |
| Academies had agreed that Helen Huntley should take up the vacant position so Helen was confirmed as an academy representative. | 07/05/14 | 3 | 325 |
| Academies had agreed that Jo Rockall, John Constable and Paul McAteer be asked if they are willing to serve a further term of office when theirs end in summer 2014. Agreed they will be asked formally if they wish to do so. | 07/05/14 | 3 | 325 |
| No nominations for a maintained school governor representative had been received. SASH asked to find a maintained school member. | 07/05/14 | 3 | 325 |
| PFI | | | |
| Schools Forum voted on how the £500,000 PFI funding being returned by the Council to the DSG should be distributed. The vote was 8 to 2 in favour of distributing the £500k to all schools via the 5 – 16 formula. This was therefore agreed. | 07/05/14 | 4 | 326 |
| Schools Forum supported the recommendation that the Council review the contract with the PFI contractor with a view to renegotiating and reducing the overall cost | 07/05/14 | 4 | 326 |
| Membership | | | |
| Following academy proprietors' approval, Jo Rockall, John Constable and Paul McAteer had all agreed to serve a further term of office. | 02/07/14 | 3 | 335 |
| Kathleen Higgins was welcomed as a new member having been appointed by SASH and SASH had also endorsed Mary Sparrow continuing as a member. | 02/07/14 | 3 | 335 |
| Carol Pearce will become a governor member representing maintained primary schools, from September 2014. | 02/07/14 | 3 | 335 |
| PFI | | | |
| Agreed that the £500,000 being returned to the DSG by the Council to reinstate its full contribution for 2013/14, be distributed on pupil numbers. | 02/07/14 | 3 | 335 |
| Schools Forum Constitution | | | |
| The updated Schools Forum Constitution was approved. | 02/07/14 | 3 | 335 |
| PFI | | | |
| Schools Forum noted an update on PFI and gave its support to the LA participating as a DfE pilot LA. In noting the position regarding the affordability gap, the Forum made clear that there were no assumptions about the sources of that funding - no assumptions about implications for the DSG. | 02/07/14 | 4 | 336 |

Schools Forum Key Decisions Log September 2013 and ongoing V5 March 2015

| | | | |
|--|----------|----|-----|
| Schools Outturn 2013-14 and 2014-15 Budget Plans | | | |
| It was agreed that the Chair and Vice Chair would write to the Secretary of State, DfE, EFA and local MP to raise concerns re dropping funding levels despite increasing pupil numbers, at a time when education funding is supposed to be 'ring-fenced'. | 02/07/14 | 5 | 338 |
| Schools Forum members agreed that the two phase groups would discuss asking academies to share information about balances in the interest of overall transparency as this data is currently only available for maintained schools. This has the support of Schools Forum academy members. | 02/07/14 | 5 | 338 |
| Central Outturn 2013 -14 | | | |
| Agreed that business cases would be presented at the September meeting to enable decisions to be made about the use of underspend. Agreed that, if any of the underspend was later returned to school budgets, this should be distributed by pupil numbers. | 02/07/14 | 6 | 339 |
| Revised Growth Fund | | | |
| Schools Forum agreed that the underspend of £375,940 be carried forward into the Growth Fund for 2015/16. | 02/07/14 | 7 | 340 |
| Scheme for Financing Schools | | | |
| Schools Forum agreed to the amendments to the Scheme for Financing Schools as presented and to the updated Scheme for Financing Schools being put on the SBC website. . | 02/07/14 | 10 | 342 |
| Changes to Schools and Early Years Finance Regulations 2014 | | | |
| A number of changes were noted including: Schools Forum is now required to discuss places being commissioned by the LA and others in special schools, resource units and AP as well as arrangements for paying top ups; funding for each Alternative Provision place will increase from £8,000 to £10,000 per annum. It was agreed that a brief response to the consultation would be sent voicing concern about the overall funding pressures on the DSG and the impact on these overall on schools' budgets. | 17/09/14 | 5 | 353 |
| Centrally Held DSG Underspend | | | |
| It was agreed that: £60,000 from 2013-14 DSG underspend be allocated to the Slough Learning Partnership to cover operating costs and contingency until the end of August 2015 and £100,000 be allocated to enable the Slough Learning Partnership to deliver a range of additional school improvement services during 2014-15. The proposals regarding allocation to the High Needs Block and Schools Block were deferred until the blocks are agreed at a future meeting. | 17/09/14 | 6 | 354 |
| PFI | | | |
| It was noted that SBC had been accepted as one of only 4 LAs taking part in the DfE pilot to identify potential savings in PFI contracts. | 17/09/14 | 8 | 351 |
| Schools Funding levels - letter to Secretary of State | | | |
| Members noted a response from David Laws MP to the letter sent to the Secretary of State. | 12/11/14 | 3 | 361 |
| St Joseph's update | | | |
| An update was provided on the Schools Forum 2012 grant from headroom to support St Joseph's finance and development plan and financial stability over 3 to 5 years. It was noted that the school had been able to return £400,000 in 2013 and has utilised the remaining funding as was originally intended. | 12/11/14 | 3 | 361 |
| Amendment to previous minutes | | | |
| It was noted that the reference in the previous minutes to the increase in value of an Alternative Provision place is an increase to 'base funding'. | 12/11/14 | 3 | 361 |
| Quarter 1 Budget Monitoring | | | |
| It was agreed that a review of the Balance Control Mechanism would take place when the Schools Forum considers the Scheme for Financing Schools for 15/16. | 12/11/14 | 4 | 362 |

Schools Forum Key Decisions Log September 2013 and ongoing V5 March 2015

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| Budget process / formula | | | |
| Schools Forum agreed: the introduction of a 'reception uplift' in 2015/16; the introduction of capping at 3% in 2015/16 and that the existing formula factors should remain for 2015/16. | 12/11/14 | 5 | 363 |
| Growth Fund 2015/16 | | | |
| Schools Forum agreed to create a Growth Fund for 2015/16. It was agreed that the fund should be based on full AWPU for the relevant part of the year for 2015/16. | 10/12/14 | 6 | 374 |
| Centrally Retained DSG Underspend | | | |
| The principle of distributing the final underspend by numbers on roll was re-affirmed. | 10/12/14 | 7 | 375 |
| De-delegated Budgets: SEBDOS (formerly known as the Behaviour Support Service) and Trades Union) | | | |
| With regard to the budget for SEBDOS (previously known as Behaviour Support), the relevant maintained schools' members of the Schools Forum voted to approve de-delegation in both phases at the unit costs proposed. Decision regarding de-delegation of the Trades Union budget was deferred until January 2015. | 10/12/14 | 8 | 376 |
| Membership | | | |
| Maggie Stacey had stood down from Schools Forum and thanks was given for her long service and valuable contributions. Schools Forum also thanked Mary Sparrow, who is leaving Slough, for her valuable contributions to the Forum. It was agreed that academy proprietors be asked to fill the three academy member vacancies and Schools Forum suggested a primary member and two secondary members in order to maintain an appropriate phase balance. A replacement maintained secondary school member is also to be found. | 10/12/14 | 9 | 377 |
| Membership | | | |
| Angela Mellish (St Bernard's Grammar School) was welcomed to the Schools Forum as the new maintained secondary school member. | 14/01/15 | 1 | 382 |
| Minutes of previous meeting 10th December 2014 | | | |
| It was reported that confirmation had been given by the LA (Joseph Holmes) that no monies would be top-sliced from the DSG in future without a request to Schools Forum and its subsequent approval. | 14/01/15 | 3 | 384 |
| It was noted that Louise Lund was no longer a member of Schools Forum as she is no longer in a PVI setting and therefore not eligible and that a replacement was being sought. | 14/01/15 | 3 | 384 |
| Centrally Retained DSG Underspend | | | |
| Schools Forum agreed that the £998k underspend be redistributed to schools but not that the pensions deficit owed be netted off; schools to be notified of their pensions liability and billed separately from any underspend payment. | 14/01/15 | 5 | 386 |
| Centrally Retained DSG 2015/16 | | | |
| The centrally retained DSG 15/16 budget figure for Cambridge Education was agreed. Further detail is to be brought back to Schools Forum of the allocation of the individual strands of funding and the associated justification for spend. LA retained element: the bottom line figure of £241,034 was agreed. A report will be brought to the March Schools Forum of 14/15 anticipated spend and what the budgets are likely to be spent on in 2015/16. This will be a matter for final decision in March. The £241,034 to be held in reserve pending the further report in March. | 14/01/15 | 6 | 387 |

Schools Forum Key Decisions Log September 2013 and ongoing V5 March 2015

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| 2015/16 Budget Process | | | |
| Schools Forum noted the 2015-16 formula factors and timetable (factors and budget pro-forma are predicated on the recommendations of the Schools Forum 5-16 formula Task and Finish group). To be submitted to the DfE following Council ratification. | 14/01/15 | 7 | 388 |
| 2015-16 DSG Schools Block and de-delegation of Trade Union support budget | | | |
| Schools Forum noted the Schools Block budget for 2015-16. De-delegation of Trade Union support: the 3 maintained primary schools' members present voted unanimously in favour of de-delegation at the current unit cost. Both secondary maintained schools members present voted in favour of de-delegation at the current unit cost. | 14/01/15 | 8 | 389 |
| 2015-16 DSG Blocks (High Needs Block) | | | |
| Schools Forum agreed to carry forward £600,000 from 2014/15. | 14/01/15 | 9 | 390 |
| Membership | | | |
| Sally Eaton attended the meeting as an observer, with a view to taking on the role of member representing the PVI's. Maggie Waller thanked Jean Cameron for her valuable contributions and support to both the Schools Forum and the Early Years Task and Finish Group over many years as this was her last meeting. A new member to represent Children's Centres is being sought (<i>since meeting advised: Emma Slaughter, Interim Head of Children's Centres</i>). | 25/03/15 | 1 | 396 |
| PFI | | | |
| It was noted that the £500,000 previously removed from the DSG in 2014/15 in respect of PFI had been returned and would be distributed to all schools and academies imminently. The £500,000 for 2015/16, removed in error, will also be returned. | 25/03/15 | 3 | 398 |
| Commissioning of Places in Special Settings | | | |
| It was noted that an annual review of places should take place (report to Schools Forum) | 25/03/15 | 4 | 399 |
| Early Years | | | |
| Schools Forum agreed the 2015/16 Early Years centrally held budgets and noted the summary of the Early Years block budget.2015/16 including forecast growth. | 25/03/15 | 6 | 401 |
| Membership | | | |
| John Constable is to write to academy proprietors regarding the three membership vacancies, following a review of the January 2015 census. | 25/03/15 | 12 | 407 |