

**MINUTES OF THE SCHOOLS FORUM MEETING  
THURSDAY 26 JANUARY 2012**

**Present: School Members**

Headteachers:- Tony Hartney, Chair, (Gladesmore), Evelyn Pittman (Tetherdown), Will Wawn ( Bounds Green), Val Buckett (Pembury House Nursery and Children's Centre), Linda Sarr (St Ann's) , Maxine Patterson (Ferry Lane), Cal Shaw (Chestnuts) (Mike Clayden (NPSC) for Monica Duncan, Eric Edwards (Park View Academy) for Alex Atherton,

Governors:- Melian Mansfield (Children's Centres (Pembury House), Sarah Crowe (Devonshire Hill), Imogen Pennell ( Highgate Wood), Sarah Miller (Gladesmore), Miriam Ridge (Our Lady of Muswell), Liz Singleton (NPCS), Louis Fisher (Earlsmead), Jeffrey Renaud (Earlham)

**Non- School Members**

Cllr Zena Brabazon, Bill Barker, Haringey 6<sup>th</sup> Form Centre (for June Jarrett), Mark Rowland, Faith Representative), Pat Forward (Unison), Julie Davies (Haringey Teachers' Panel)

**In attendance:** Councillor Lorna Reith, Neville Murton, Steve Worth, Peter Desmond and Carolyn Banks

<b>MINUTE NO.</b>	<b>SUBJECT/DECISION</b>	<b>ACTION BY</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>CHAIR'S WELCOME</b>	
1.1	In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair, the Forum agreed that Imogen Pennell take the Chair pending the Chair's arrival (Tony Hartney in chair from item 4). She welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>MEMBERSHIP ( Agenda Item 2) for decision</b>	
2.1	The Clerk reported that further to the decision at the last meeting to increase the Academies membership of the Forum to two places, she was waiting to hear from the Academies sector with regard to their protocol for the allocation of Academy places on the Forum.	
2.2	There were no other changes to the Forum's membership.	
<b>3.</b>	<b>APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS ( Agenda Item 3)</b>	
3.1	Apologies for absence were received from Jane Flynn, Vic Seeborn, Asher Jacobsberg, Linda Sarr, Mark Rowland, Susan Tudor - Hart and Laura Butterfield.	
3.2	Bill Barker substituting for June Jarrett, Mike Clayden substituting for Monica Duncan and Eric Edwards substituting for Alex Atherton	
<b>4.</b>	<b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST (Agenda Item 4)</b>	
	There were no declarations of interest.	

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE SCHOOLS FORUM  
THURSDAY 26 JANUARY 2012**

<b>5</b>	<b>MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 8 DECEMBER 2011 (Agenda Item 5)</b>	
5.1	<b>AGREED:</b> The minutes of the meeting were agreed as a true record.	
<b>6.</b>	<b>MATTERS ARISING</b>	
6.1	Min 8.6. Officers assured the Forum that the requested report back on how the transitional funding for the continuation of breakfast and after schools clubs and the subsequent survey being carried out in schools would be reported to the next meeting.	BE/JD/S W
<b>7.</b>	<b>REVIEW OF FULL TIME NUSRERY CLASS PLACE PROVISION FOR THREE AND FOUR YEAR OLD CHILDREN IN HARINGEY'S SCHOOLS (Agenda Item 7)</b> <i>report for consultation and views</i>	
7.1	Following the previous meeting, proposals had been developed in consultation with the Forum's Early Years Single Funding Formula Working Party with regard to reducing the number of funded full time places in order to fund the required increase in the take up of the statutory free entitlement. The Forum was informed of the results of the subsequent consultation on the matter. 14 responses were received including from some schools indicating their position in respect of having full time places.	
7.2	There was some discussion as to whether the proposed 28 places to be retained centrally was too high and SW agreed that there was a need for further consideration on this. SW also advised that the Authority was required to plan for a 90% take up, which it was noted would have implications for the new free entitlement for two year olds. There would be the opportunity to review the matter if the expected progress from the current 77% take up was not made. WW expressed his concern over the possible implications of any claw back if schools were not able to take up the places.	SW
7.3	Cllr Reith informed the Forum that the money being provided for the extension of the two year old entitlement was allocated through the Early Intervention Grant, and that as it was not ring fenced, officers were working on drawing up proposals and making a case for the funds.	
7.4	In response to a question as to the entitlement for three year olds attending Academies, SW advised that the money would not be taken away from the Authority because Early Years funding remained the Local Authority's responsibility	
7.5	<b>RESOLVED:</b>  <b>1. That the number of full time places provided for three and four year olds be reduced and reprofiled, based on deprivation indicators, in order to increase the uptake of the 15 hour free entitlement and to ensure that the remaining funded full time provision was better targeted to those most</b>	

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE SCHOOLS FORUM  
THURSDAY 26 JANUARY 2012**

	<p>in need.</p> <p>2. That it be noted that schools affected by a reduction in their number of allocated full time places be protected through the Minimum Funding Guarantee, which would be scaled down year on year.</p> <p>3. That where full time places in accordance with set criteria were necessary, the funding for targeted places be provided as part of Haringey's Early Years Childcare Formula model with a centrally held pot to provide responsive, targeted places to the most vulnerable children throughout the year and that this be reviewed annually.</p> <p>4. That this model see the introduction of local admissions systems for funded full time places which would be monitored annually by the Local Authority.</p> <p>5. That a supporting letter be sent to schools setting out guidance on the allocation of part time places.</p> <p>6. That the Early Years Single Funding Formula Working Party keep the matter under review and that they review the Funding Formula as necessary.</p>	SW SW
8.	<b>IMPLICATIONS OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM THE DSG FOR MUSIC SERVICE (Agenda Item 8)</b> <i>report for information/note</i>	
8.1	The Forum welcomed PD, the Head of Music and Performing Arts to the meeting. PD tabled details of the take up of music performing arts on a school by school basis for the Autumn Term 2011. He identified the three sources of potential funding: - Charges to parents, centrally retained DSG money and through a grant from the Arts Council for England, to which a bid had to be submitted. Since the potential allocation from the Arts Council would be less next year he wished the Forum to make up the difference so that the same level of provision could be maintained.	
8.2	In response to a question around take up between schools across the borough PD advised that there was a good take up from certain sectors of the borough and that there was a poor take up from some schools. In trying to address this, specific programmes had been introduced in some schools and as a result take up was improving in those schools. The adopted strategy and purpose of the MPAC programme, which delivered whole class instrumental tuition for Year 4 children was to give every child the opportunity to learn an instrument. The Forum appreciated that the service was currently operating on the basis of minimum funding necessary for its delivery.	
8.3	Although at present any child attending an Academy and in receipt of free school meals was entitled to the current subsidy, PD asked for a steer from the Forum on this matter. The Chair stated that he was of the view that Academies should cover the cost of the charges and subsidies, and that a system of charging should be introduced for Academies. WW suggested that officers prepare a formula so that Academies could buy back into a SLA. In response PD advised that it was not that simple because the Arts Council money was area based funding for the benefit of the whole area, not exclusively for community schools. In the meantime the Forum asked for part of the £167K DSG grant to be charged back to Academies with effect from the start of 2011/12.	

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE SCHOOLS FORUM  
THURSDAY 26 JANUARY 2012**

8.4	Arsing from an enquiry from MM, PD confirmed that some research had been carried out linking academic achievement with music education and he agreed to provide MM with the information.	PD
8.5	<p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the decision made previously to support for the Music Service in 2012-13 through a DSG subsidy of £167,724 be noted. Also the previous decision to support all pupils and not skewed towards those from more affluent backgrounds be noted.</li> <li>2. That officers investigate ways of ensuring that the LA was not subsidising Academies and that they be charged the cost of the service as appropriate.</li> </ol>	
9.	<b>2012-13 BUDGET STRATEGY Agenda Item 9)</b> <i>report for information/note/consultation/views</i>	
9.1	SW presented an update on the previous report to the Forum with regard to the strategy for the Dedicated Schools Budget (DSG). Although the DfE had not yet announced the outcome of its consultation on national formula changes it was still anticipated that it would begin in April 2013.	
9.2	The Forum was advised that the current arrangements for recovering the Formula Grant element of academy funding, which covered services provided to schools and academies, but not funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) was a particular problem for Haringey as the funding removed was disproportionately high compared with the number of academies in the area. It was noted that as part of the consultation the Authority had asked for further concessions.	
9.3	The DfE had released further information on the indicative Pupil Premium for 2012/13 and details for individual schools were provided. Entitlement would be extended to cover all pupils who had been eligible for Free School Meals in the previous six years, the amount of the Pupil Premium will increase to £600 in 2012-13 compared with £488 in 2011-12 for those qualifying pupils. Some concern was expressed over this methodology as a substantial number of Haringey pupils eligible had not lived in the country for six years and others were not eligible because of the changes to the benefits system. SW advised that local (AEN) factors provided funding for targeted ethnic minority groups, free school meals eligibility, poor attainment at KS2 and 3, and mobility. MC advised the Forum that 22% of pupils on the role at NPCS had arrived in the UK within the last six years. The view was expressed that the six year rule could be in breach of the Race Relations Act and that it should be raised with the Equalities Minister, Lyn Featherstone. It was also suggested that there was a need for further research to be carried out in respect of the free school meals system and the impact that it would have on various communities.	SW
9.4	It was noted that the outcome of the consultation which had been sent to all headteachers, regarding changes to the Schools Funding Formula in relation to bulge classes, General Premises Formula and Small Secondary Schools factor would be reported to the next meeting.	

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE SCHOOLS FORUM  
THURSDAY 26 JANUARY 2012**

	However it was noted that the recommendation from the previous meeting regarding support to be provided for an agreed time limit and subject to a planed action plan as an alternative to the creation of a small secondary schools factor had not been consulted upon; this would be rectified.	SW
9.5	There was some discussion around the fairest method for the calculation of the general premises factor. It was stated that many new buildings contrary to expectations actually cost more to run overall than older buildings. SW advised that there was a need to check floor areas and that the budget distribution was correct. The Forum was reminded that the responses to the consultation would be presented to the next meeting.	
9.6	With regard to the two Inclusive Learning Campuses and the Resource Unit at Heartlands the 2012/13 budget needed to reflect the increase in costs (£450,000) for full year funding of these places plus the part year implication of places to places to be filled from September 2012. This increase in in - borough provision reduced the need for more expensive external placements and would help to relieve the pressure on the centrally retained elements of the Schools Budget. It was anticipated that there would be sufficient set aside in contingency to cover in year transfers of pupils with special educational needs and new statements issued in year. It was also suggested that it would be helpful to carry out some comparable benchmarking with other Authorities in the area of provision. NM advised that the strategy of creating more in house provision was having an effect on out borough provision and it was agreed that a further report would be presented to the Forum at it's meeting in May 2012. In response to a question it was noted that the Local Authority still retained responsibility for children with statements if they attended an Academy	PdL
9.7	The Forum was reminded that the number of Looked After Children (LAC) has risen over the last few years. At present there were 42 children placed in residential accommodation outside the borough at a cost of up to £1m for the educational component of the placement. The SEN component was charged against the DSG, but as it had grown so significantly the educational component could not continue to be met from the Council's placement budget. The proposal was for it to be charged against the centrally retained element of the DSG. However achieving this would be dependant upon making savings or from the centrally retained proportion of the estimated increase in pupil numbers in addition to being dependant upon not breaching the CEL.	
9.8	As previously requested the Forum received information on the financial implications for centrally retained DSG budgets of schools becoming academies. Based on the 2011/12 budget allocations and incorporating likely changes for 2012/13 the estimated loss to the LA for each pupil in a school that became an academy was around £82 for a primary aged pupil and £121 for secondary.  <b>RESOLVED:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the report be noted.</li> <li>2. That the increase in funding of £0.45m for the Inclusive Learning Campus and Heartlands be agreed and</li> </ol>	

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE SCHOOLS FORUM  
THURSDAY 26 JANUARY 2012**

	<p>recommended to the Local Authority.</p> <p>3. That the proposal for the Looked After Children Placement Budget of £1m be agreed and recommended to the Local Authority.</p> <p>4. That the consultation be circulated to Chair's of Governing Bodies through Governors' Support.</p> <p>5. That the consultation on the alternative to the small secondary school factor be reissued.</p> <p>6. That officers carry out research on the effects of the new free school meals system by way of illustrating the effects on two primary and one secondary school.</p> <p>7. That a further report on the placing of children with special educational needs be presented to the Forum at it's meeting in May 2012.</p>	<p>SW/MT</p> <p>SW</p> <p>SW</p>
10.	<p><b>FORUM WORKING PARTIES( Agenda Item 10)</b><i>report for decision</i></p> <p>Consideration was given to the future of the Best Value Working Party and the Area Cost Adjustment Working Party. There was a discussion around the need to establish a Funding Formula Working party when the DfE published the proposals for the national arrangements, commencing in April 2013.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p>1. That the Best Value Working Party be wound up and the Area Cost Adjustment Working party be held in abeyance.</p> <p>2. That a Funding Formula Working party be established when the DfE publish the proposals for the National Formula changes.</p>	<p>SW</p>
11.	<b>ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS</b>	
	There was no other urgent business.	
12.	<b>DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – 23 February 2012</b>	
	The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.	

The meeting closed at 6.15 pm

**TONY HARTNEY**

Chair