

**MINUTES OF THE SCHOOLS FORUM MEETING
THURSDAY 17 JANUARY 2013**

Schools Members:

Headteachers: **Special (1)** - Martin Doyle(A) (Riverside),
Children's Centres(1) -Val Buckett (A) (Pembury),
Primary (7) *Evelyn Pittman (Tetherdown), Maxine Patterson
(A)(Ferry Lane), *Fran Hargroves (St Mary's CE), *Will Wawn (Bounds Green) Linda Sarr (A) (St Ann's), Cal Shaw (Chestnuts),
*Julie D'Abreu (Devonshire Hill)
Secondary (4) Alex Atherton (A) (Park View), *Tony Hartney
(Gladesmore), Monica Duncan (A) (Northumberland Park), *Simon
Garrill (Heartlands)
Academies(2)Paul Sutton (Greig City),* Michael McKenzie
(Alexandra Park)

Governors: **Special (1)** Vik Seeborun (The Vale)
Children's Centres (1) *Melian Mansfield (Pembury)
Primary (7) *Miriam Ridge (Our Lady of Muswell), *Asher
Jacobsberg (Welbourne),* Louis Fisher (Earlsmead), *Laura
Butterfield (Coldfall),* Andreas Adamides (Stamford Hill), *Jan
Smosarski (Bruce Grove),*Sandra Carr (St John Vianney)
Secondary (4) *Liz Singleton (Northumberland Park),* Imogen
Pennell (Highgate Wood), *Marianne McCarthy (Heartlands),
*Keith Embleton (Hornsey)

Non School Members:-

Non – Executive Councillor - *Cllr Zena Brabazon
Professional Association Representative- *Julie Davies
Trade Union Representative -*Pat Forward
14-19 Partnership- *June Jarrett
Early Years Providers -*Susan Tudor-Hart
Faith Schools - Mark Rowland (A)

Observers:-

Cabinet Member for CYPS (*Cllr Ann Waters)
Education Funding Agency (* Alf Brown)

Also attending:

Steve Worth, School Funding Manager
Wendy Sagar, Interim Head of Finance CYPS
Carolyn Banks, Clerk
Jan Doust, Deputy Director, CYPS
Jon Abbey, Assistant Director, CYPS
Steve Davies, Head of Human Resources

*Members present
A Apologies given

TONY HARTNEY [CHAIR] IN THE CHAIR

**MINUTE
NO.**

SUBJECT/DECISION

**ACTION
BY**

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE SCHOOLS FORUM
THURSDAY 17 JANUARY 2013**

1.	CHAIR'S WELCOME	
1.1	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. In particular he welcomed Jon Abbey, the newly appointed Assistant Director, School Improvement.	
2.	APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS (Agenda Item 2)	
3.1	Apologies for absence were received from Val Buckett, Mark Rowland, Maxine Pattison, Linda Sarr, and Alex Atherton	
3.2	The following substitute Forum members were noted:- James Lane for Cal Shaw, Mike Clayden for Monica Duncan, Ross McGill for Paul Sutton, and Julie Vaggers for Val Buckett.	
3.	DECLARATION OF INTEREST (Agenda Item 4)	
3.1	Both Julie Davies and Pat Forward declared an interest in relation to the de-delegation of staff costs supply cover and they were not present for the discussion on this item. Laura Butterfield advised that she worked as a full time official for Unison.	
4	MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 6 DECEMBER 2012 (Agenda Item 5)	
4.1	AGREED: The minutes of the meeting were agreed as a true record	
5.	MATTERS ARISING	
5.1	SW reported that all matters arising would either be items for future meetings or covered at this meeting.	
5.2	Item 5.1 KE was welcomed to his first meeting.	
5.3	The Forum AGREED that for the next meeting the agenda be produced with indicative timings.	CB
5.4	Item 6.5 SW advised that the 2013-14 funding formula had been agreed by the Council and submitted to the EFA. Further examination of local needs including deprivation could be looked at as part of a review during 2013.	SW
6.	2013/14 BUDGET STRATEGY including further implementation of School Funding Reform (Agenda Item 6) report for information/note/consultation/decision	
6.1	Further to the previous meeting the Forum noted the indicative DSG and DSB for 2013/14, together with the Education settlement which had been announced on 19 December 2012. It was noted that the DSG funding would be re-determined by changes in early years pupil numbers, taken from the January 2013 pupil count and finalised using January 2014 census participation numbers.	
6.2	SW reported that the DfE had announced that there would be one license with the Copyright Licensing Agency (CLA) and the Music	

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE SCHOOLS FORUM
THURSDAY 17 JANUARY 2013**

	<p>Publishers Association (MPA) to purchase a single national licence for all state-funded schools in England. This meant that local authorities and schools would no longer need to negotiate individual licences. The charge for Haringey in 2013/14 would be £62k and the DfE had confirmed that a deduction to cover this was an allowed exception to delegation from the Schools Block.</p>	
6.3	<p>There was a detailed discussion in relation to Central services which the Local Authority could retain. The Forum noted that no new commitments or increase in expenditure from 2012-13 levels, with the exception of the CRC budget, would be allowed. There was a general consensus that there was insufficient information provided on various items under central services and although the Forum accepted that they had to make decisions at this meeting they felt that they would have liked more information on the services and details of the implications should they not wish to approve their retention. MC also commented on the separate presentation of overheads, which meant that the total costs were higher than shown. Both Cllr Waters and ZB spoke about the importance of schools working together and being part of Haringey's family of schools. WW advised the Forum that should they decide not to retain the various central services, it would not be possible to reconsider in future years. He also added that the Forum was being asked to approve only for 2013-14; Schools Forum is required to make a decision annually before the start of the financial year on 1 April.. JD welcomed the need for greater transparency and the request for further details on the services. The Forum AGREED that a Sub Group be set up to look at and evaluate the services in greater detail. Although the Forum unanimously approved the retention of the Central Services budgets they also requested a further report setting out more detailed information and greater clarity and the observations as set out in the following paragraphs were noted.</p>	<p>SW/JA/ JD</p>
6.4	<p>It was noted that the Family Support Services was a referral based service which was largely based on CAF referrals, and not all schools used the service. MM asked how many schools and families it supported and AA asked if more information could be obtained so that a proper evaluation of its effectiveness could be made. MC suggested that the service be turned into an SLA from 1 September. This remains an option for the future but members decided to approve central retention of the whole budget for 2013-14. Officers to report further to the Forum, especially on more effective reporting of outcomes.</p>	<p>JD</p>
6.5	<p>JD advised that without the central retention of funding for the educational component of Looked After children placements the Council would have to fund from elsewhere. She added that to fund this way was the most cost effective method.</p>	
6.6	<p>In response to LB's concern that the sum of money identified for the Strategic and Intervention Education Service, for School to school support appeared to be rather high, JA replied that there was a restructuring of the school improvement service currently taking place and the newly established team would consist of Local Authority officers with the right skills to both fulfil statutory duties, align services and to support and provide effective challenge to Headteachers. In addition there was a cost involved in school's supporting each other. It was accepted that it was important to maintain expertise in this area centrally. JA also advised that it was a small team of high quality credible people.</p>	

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE SCHOOLS FORUM
THURSDAY 17 JANUARY 2013**

	More information was requested on how this service would be delivered.	JA
6.7	MM urged the Forum to consider how schools would fund the services under the Misc heading should they not be retained centrally and the implications should the LA no longer be able to offer the services. In response JD advised that the first consideration of the LA would be to ascertain whether they could offer a good traded service. SW also advised that any statutory duties that the Forum did not agree to retain centrally the LA could appeal to the Secretary of State. Additionally any services not retained centrally could result in reduced services and/or higher charges.	
6.8	WW commented on the cost of providing the governor support and training which fell under the Miscellaneous heading and sought greater clarification on this and JA welcomed the opportunity to provide greater transparency in this area. Some Forum members queried the quality of service being provided, albeit the service had been significantly reduced and was currently under resourced. The Forum agreed that it was essential for the service to be a good one and they were pleased to note that there had been a review. JA advised that he hoped that this team would return to the school improvement service. In agreeing to retain the GSTU centrally as part of the central services budget for a further year the Forum requested a further report setting out a breakdown of the cost, together with future proposals for the service, and that governors be involved in the process.	JA
6.9	As requested at the previous meeting clarification was provided around the proposed growth fund criteria. The Forum noted in particular that the proposals would be amended to ensure that there would be no double funding so that, where appropriate, the reception class uplift would replace any growth funding. It was noted that the Forum would receive an annual report setting out payments made against the growth fund.	SW
6.10	There was a detailed discussion in relation to the de-delegation of some services which could be retained centrally by the LA. The Forum was reminded that the decision on de-delegation had to be made by sector phase maintained school members of the Forum.	
6.11	With regard to the de-delegation <u>Support to Schools in Financial difficulty (£220K)</u> SW advised that there was a small surplus carried forward at the moment. Maintained school members of the Forum voted unanimously in favour of de-delegation.	
6.12	<u>Behaviour Support Services</u> JD advised that this was a referral service, accessed through the CAF process and used by schools often at short notice. It offered targeted intervention which was delivered by a range of specialists to individual children, groups of children and to staff. SC stated that it would have	

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE SCHOOLS FORUM
THURSDAY 17 JANUARY 2013**

	<p>been helpful if more information had been provided regarding the effectiveness of the service. MC commented about the high unit costs.</p> <p>Maintained school members of the Forum voted against de-delegation as follows:-</p> <p>Primary Sector For de-delegation 0 Against de-delegation 9 Abstentions 2</p> <p>Secondary Sector For de-delegation 1 Against de-delegation 6 Abstentions 1</p>	
6.13	<p><u>Support to underperforming ethnic minority groups and bilingual learners (£766K)</u></p> <p>SW advised that officers were seeking de-delegation of this budget for 2013/14 only, in order to provide funding and time to reconfigure the service. JA stated that approval would create the opportunity to adopt a different approach and to produce a programme of targeted support. Forum members noted that should de-delegation not be approved then the service would be lost. AA commented that underperforming ethnic minorities was still a priority for the borough and that approval for one year would provide the Local Authority with the opportunity to sort the service out. AJ also stated that although the school to school support was in place there was still a need for support from the LA.</p> <p>Louis Fisher left the meeting at this point</p> <p>Maintained school members of the Forum voted for de-delegation in the primary sector only as follows:-</p> <p>Primary Sector For de-delegation 10 Against de-delegation 0 Abstentions 0</p> <p>Secondary Sector For de-delegation 2 Against de-delegation 4 Abstentions 1</p>	
6.14	<p><u>Staff Supply Costs</u></p> <p>SD, Head of Human Resources provided background information on this item. In addition the Forum noted written representation received from the NUT and Unison.</p>	

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE SCHOOLS FORUM
THURSDAY 17 JANUARY 2013**

	<p>Maintained school members of the Forum voted for de-delegation in the primary sector only as follows:-</p> <p>Primary Sector</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">For de-delegation 6 Against de-delegation 0 Abstentions 4</p> <p>Secondary Sector</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">For de-delegation 1 Against de-delegation 4 Abstentions 1</p>	
	<p>RESOLVED:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the indicative DSG and DSB for 2013/14 be noted. 2. That the retention of the Central Services budgets be approved and a Sub group be set up to evaluate the services in greater detail. A further report setting out more detailed information and greater clarity, particularly in respect of the Capital Expenditure Funded from Revenue Account and the Strategic and Intervention Education Service be presented to a future meeting. 3. That a further report be presented to a future meeting in respect of the proposals for the Governors Support and Training Unit and that governors be involved. 4. That the criteria for the Growth Fund, subject to 6.9, and for its use be approved. 5. That the primary phase members of the Forum approve the de-delegation of:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for Schools in Financial Difficulty • Support to Underperforming Ethnic Minority Groups and Bilingual Learners 6. That the primary phase members of the Forum not approve the de-delegation of Behaviour Support Services. 7. That the secondary phase members of the Forum approve the de-delegation of Support for Schools in Financial Difficulty. 8. That the secondary phase members of the Forum not approve the de-delegation of Behaviour Support Services and Support to Underperforming Ethnic Minority Groups and Bilingual Learners 9. That the primary phase de-delegate funding to provide centrally funded union representation. 	<p>SW/JD</p>

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE SCHOOLS FORUM
THURSDAY 17 JANUARY 2013**

	10. That the secondary phase retain the budget allocation within the school and utilise this to fund local union representation by way of union training and reasonable time off for each union to allow representation for respective members within each school.	
7.	THE SCHOOL AND EARLY YEARS FINANCE REGULATIONS 2012	
	Consideration of this item was deferred.	
8.	UPDATE ON WORKING PARTIES (Verbal report)	
	Consideration of this item was deferred.	
10.	ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS	
	There was none.	
11.	DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS	
	28 February 2013 23 May 2013 11 July 2013 26 September 2013	

The meeting closed at 7.30 pm

TONY HARTNEY

Chair