

MINUTES OF MEETING

Meeting title: Nottinghamshire Schools Forum
Date and time: 15 September 2015, 2pm to 4pm
Location: National Watersports Centre NG12 2LU

Membership

'A' denotes absence

Mrs A Allcock	Maintained Primary Head Teacher (Bassetlaw)
Mrs H Atkins	Maintained Primary Head Teacher (Mansfield)
Ms H Richardson	Maintained Primary Head Teacher (Newark)
A Mr J Wilson	Maintained Primary Head Teacher (Gedling)
Ms L Regan	Maintained Primary Head Teacher (Ashfield)
Ms L Toom	Maintained Primary Head Teacher (Rushcliffe)
Ms S Bates	Maintained Primary Head Teacher (Broxtowe) - (Chair)
Mr R Hawley	Maintained Secondary Head Teacher
A Mr C Weaver	Academy Head Teacher
A Mr D Cotton	Academy Head Teacher
Mr D Vasey	Academy Head Teacher
Ms D Trusler	Academy Head Teacher
Mr J McGeachie	Academy Head Teacher
A Ms K McIntyre	Special school Head Teacher
A Mr R McCrossen	Special school Head Teacher
A Mr M Quigley	Governor – academy
Mr T Colton	Governor - maintained secondary
Ms V Holland	Governor - maintained primary
Ms C Walton	PVI - Early Years Consultation Group Member
Ms K O'Connell	PVI - Early Years Consultation Group Chair
Mr C Cuomo	Diocesan representative - Head teacher – (Vice Chair)
Ms C Meese	Diocesan representative
Ms H Allister	Trades union representative – UNISON
Mr J Jefferies	Trades union representative - NASUWT

In attendance:

Ms A Holloway	Team Manager SEND Commissioning
Mr J Slater	Service Director, Education Standards & Inclusion
Mr S Edwards	Service Director, Childrens Social Care
Mrs S Summerscales	Acting Senior Finance Business Partner
Mrs T Gardner	Assistant Accountant

		ACTION						
1.	<p>Welcome</p> <p>John Slater welcomed the members to the Forum, and introductions were made.</p>							
2.	<p>Apologies for Absence</p> <p>Apologies were received from Julian Wilson, Mike Quigley and Craig Weaver.</p>							
	<p>Election of Chair and Vice Chair</p> <p>Louise Regan nominated Carlo Cuomo as Chair, Chris Walton nominated Sally Bates, Sally Bates thanked Chris Walton and explained as she was due to leave in Summer 2016 it would be difficult to continue as Chair. No other nominations were received.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="172 826 1310 904"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="172 826 552 866">Votes for</th> <th data-bbox="552 826 932 866">Votes against</th> <th data-bbox="932 826 1310 866">Abstentions</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="172 866 552 904">14</td> <td data-bbox="552 866 932 904">0</td> <td data-bbox="932 866 1310 904">0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Chris Walton proposed that Sally Bates be elected as Vice Chair; this was seconded by Karen O'Connell and Louise Regan.</p> <p>Carlo Cuomo was elected Chair and Sally Bates Vice Chair</p>	Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions	14	0	0	
Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions						
14	0	0						
3.	<p>Minutes of the Previous Meetings – 4th June 2015</p> <p>Matters arising</p> <p><u>4d Trade Union</u></p> <p>The working party have agreed the TU protocol and pro-formas and these will be circulated to all forum members. It was agreed they will be sent out with the papers for the next planned meeting 22nd October 2015.</p> <p><u>4f Review of Early Years Funding Arrangements</u></p> <p>Chris Walton requested an update on the EFA disapplication request. Sue Summerscales explained that the July deadline had been missed and due to the summer recess, the request would now be considered by the secretary of state in September 2015. On 30th September Nottinghamshire County Council had the disapplication request approved and this has been communicated.</p> <p><u>4i Cost Recovery Mechanism (CRM) Audit</u></p> <p>Helen Atkins – feeling among the partnerships that more money is been recovered Louise Regan – a more in-depth lengthy discussion is required around this subject and suggested it be an agenda item at the next ordinary meeting. Alison Holloway informed the group that Charles Savage was doing a detailed piece of work around CRM and when finished would be happy to share.</p> <p>Dick Vasey asked if the CRM had been a dis-incentive to schools to exclude pupils and would welcome this information Carlo Cuomo suggested this item be brought back to the December meeting.</p>	RM						

4. 6a. Tackling Emerging Threats to Children

Steve Edwards presented the paper

Helen Atkins asked if the support to schools would be free, Steve Edwards confirmed it would be.

A request was made from Steve Edwards that if anyone on the forum or a member of their staff would like to be involved to contact him, the commitment would be a meeting every 1/2 term.

Tony Colton – would like this message and the workings be spread to all governors as there was a concern governors were not aware of this project.

Hazel Allister asked if the universal support offer would also cover support staff. It was confirmed training and support would be given to the appropriate staff, rather than specifically teacher or support.

RECOMMENDATION/S

1. The Schools Forum approve the use of the three-year temporary funding of £1.2m from the Schools Budget Reserve, in relation to the Universal, Targeted and Specialist support offers detailed in this report
2. The Schools Forum identify the regularity by which detail and progress from the four workstreams is to be reported

Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions
14	0	0

The Schools Forum approved point 1 however point 2 was not discussed.

5. Correspondence item – Allocation of Fairer Schools Funding (MFL)

James McGeachie was concerned over the per pupil amount between the worst and best funded schools and asked if the extra £0.9m received from the DfE could be targeted differently and given to the lowest funded schools.

Sue Summerscales advised it would be difficult to target the funding to specific schools as funding to schools would need to go through the funding formula.

It was established this issue has come about following correspondence from Andrew George. Louise Regan asked if the forum members could have a copy of the letter as they would not be able to take any decision without this, and asked if this was only referring to secondary schools.

James McGeachie advised the correspondence was not in a form of a letter but as an email from Andrew George requesting the matter regards the current funding gap which exists between schools be raised at forum. The email was specifically regards secondary schools, however primary schools in West Bridgford had also had the same discussion.

Toni Gardner - The per pupil amounts are based on total budgets, therefore the characteristic of schools would attract different allocations and exceptional factor

	<p>such as joint use, split site and the minimum funding guarantee (MFG) which are not received by all schools would have an impact.</p> <p>A request was made to bring this back to the forum so that members can understand Individual school allocations, and to establish where the differences occur. It was agreed this would come back to the forum in October.</p>	TG
	<p>6b. Local Funding Formula 2016-17 Consultation</p> <p>Sue Summerscales presented the papers and outlined the proposed changes to be consulted on and the inclusion for first time of the Early Years Single Funding Formula.</p> <p><u>Early Years Single Funding Formula.</u></p> <p>The forum were advised that if no increase was received from the DfE the only 2 other avenues to fund the early years increase would be from the other notional blocks or reserves. It was agreed it would be funded from reserves on the understanding this was temporary, for 2016-17 only the allocation would have to be looked at again on an annual basis as funding from reserves was not sustainable.</p> <p>Chris Walton – this increase was being agreed for one year only and proposed that the hourly rate should be £4 (PVI rate) Karen O’Connell second this proposal.</p> <p>Sue Summerscales – re-confirmed the rate consulted on was for 2016-17 only. Louise Regan asked if the consultation documents make it clear the funding was being taken from reserves – it was confirmed that this was clear.</p> <p>Louise Regan made a request that the format of the rate be consistent throughout the document and suggested we quote the annual rate.</p> <p>James McGeachie asked where the increase in the primary lump sum would be coming from. The forum was advised as the primary / secondary ratio was to remain the same then the cost would be absorbed by the primary sector.</p> <p>Dick Vasey asked why only the primary lump sum was being considered and who had suggested the increase. John Slater explained the history behind the original allocation for the lump sum which was to cover the cost of a Head teacher, admin support and caretaker, that in 2015-16 there was pressure to consult and increase the lump sum and that this pressure remains.</p> <p>Dick Vasey – Is there an option not to increase lump sum Ly Toom – important this question be part of the consultation Sally Bates requested that for the primary lump sum question we should specify that only primary sector answer this.</p> <p>James McGeachie asked what the correct avenue was to request a question be incorporated into the consultation document. Carlo Cuomo advised they can make a recommendation through the forum, Sally Bates advised the lump sum question is due to difficulties being faced by small schools and it has been an ongoing pressure.</p>	

	<p>Adrienne Allcock – could we split and have two separate consultation. Sue Summerscales explained as the Early Years section would also impact schools, schools would have to complete both and this could cause confusion.</p> <p>The consultation was accepted with amendments</p>	
	<p>6c. SEMH Pilot Response</p> <p>John Slater presented the paper, and explained that the pilot was not what we were looking for and this was being wound down. The work had be carried out in haste and apologised to the forum in the way it had been carried out. They would continue to work with Gedling and other partnerships more closely.</p> <p>Louise Regan queried amount would be £193,000 if HLN was at level 3, and as there was not many pupils at this level where had this figure been taken from.</p> <p>Helen Atkins thanked John Slater for the apology but the pilot had not been a success and had not fulfilled what it was intended to do, it had been mis-managed, there was no minutes, no paper trail and that this was not acceptable. John Slater advised there had been no deliberate wrong doing or mis-spending of funds and children outcome pilot or other projects would not be carried out in this manner again.</p> <p>Helen Atkins wanted to thank Matt Rooney for all his work.</p>	
	<p>6e. Schools Future Cost Pressures</p> <p>It was agreed that due to time this paper would be postponed and discussed at the December 2015 meeting.</p>	
	<p>6d. SEND Budget for Families of Schools Underspend 2014-15</p> <p>Alison Holloway presented the paper. The report was noted by the forum</p>	
	<p>6f. Changes to Constitution for Attendance</p> <p>Sue Summerscales presented the paper.</p> <p>Dick Vasey – asked who he was representing as this was not clear.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION/s</p> <p>That the Schools Forum note the contents of this report and consider making an amendment to the constitution to reflect attendance requirements for members as they see appropriate.</p> <p>School forum members agreed a person is disqualified from being a member if they are absent for three meetings without a satisfactory explanation or without sending a substitute.</p>	
5.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>There was no other business</p>	

6.	Date and time of next meeting(s)		
	Tuesday 22 October 2015	2-4pm National Watersports Centre	
	Thursday 3 December 2015	2-4pm National Watersports Centre	
	Thursday 11 February 2016	2-4pm National Watersports Centre	