

Meeting title: Nottinghamshire Schools Forum
Date and time: 8 June 2017, 2pm to 4pm
Location: National Watersports Centre, NG12 2LU

Membership

'A' denotes absence

	Ms A Allcock	Maintained Primary Head Teacher (Bassetlaw)
	Mrs H Atkins	Maintained Primary Head Teacher (Mansfield) – (Vice Chair)
	Mr R Hattersley	Maintained Primary Head Teacher (Newark)
A	Ms L Regan	Maintained Primary Head Teacher (Ashfield)
	Ms L Toom	Maintained Primary Head Teacher (Rushcliffe)
	Ms L Corner-Brown	Maintained Primary Head Teacher (Broxtowe)
	Ms Anne Hall	Maintained Primary Representative (Gedling)
A	Mr R Hawley	Maintained Secondary Head Teacher
A	Mr C Weaver	Academy Representative
	Ms D Clinton	Academy Representative
A	Mr D Vasey	Academy Representative
A	Ms D Trusler	Academy Representative
	Mr J McGeachie	Academy Representative
	Ms D Wigley	Special School Head Teacher
	Mr A O'Malley	Academy Special School Head Teacher
A	Mr T Colton	Governor - Maintained Secondary
A	Ms V Holland	Governor - Maintained Primary
	Ms C Walton	PVI - Early Years Group Member
	Ms K O'Connell	PVI - Early Years Group Member
A	Mr C Cuomo	Diocesan Representative - (Chair)
A	Ms C Meese	Diocesan Representative
	Ms L Maddison	Trades Union Representative
	Mr J Jefferies	Trades Union Representative

In attendance:

Mr C Pettigrew	Corporate Director – Children, Families and Cultural Services
Mrs M Clay	Acting Service Director – Education Standards & Inclusion
Mrs S Summerscales	Senior Finance Business Partner, CFCS Finance
Mr M Sharpe	School Place Planning Team Manager
Ms L Foster	Acting Group Manager – Education Standards and Inclusion
Ms I Kakoullis	Group Manager – Childhood and Early Help Locality Services
Mr S Hawkins	Finance Business Partner, CFCS Finance

1.	<p>Welcome</p> <p>Helen Atkins welcomed all members to the meeting.</p>							
2.	<p>Apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies were received from Carlo Cuomo, Ryan Hawley, Craig Weaver, Donna Trusler and Val Holland</p>							
3.	<p>Item 3a Minutes from Forum 9 February 2017</p> <p>Joe Jefferies pointed out that the accompanying membership list showed three trade union representatives but there should only be two.</p> <p>Item 4d – Nottinghamshire’s review of arrangements for SEND report Adrienne Alcock asked if the SEND review would be on the agenda for the September meeting. – This was confirmed.</p> <p>Marion Clay told the Forum that expressions of interest in two new Special Free School had not been approved by the RSC.</p> <p>Item 3a – TETC Helen Atkins raised concerns over whether level 2 development workers could be accessed by schools who choose not to opt in to the programme of support.</p> <p>Colin Pettigrew stated that he did not believe this to be the case and that discussion should be an official agenda item for a future meeting.</p> <p>Item 4e – National Funding Formula transition Marion Clay confirmed that NCC would not be writing a letter to parents asking them to put forward their views to the ESFA on the proposed National Funding Formula.</p> <p>Minutes were approved as accurate.</p>	<p>ACTION</p> <p>MC</p>						
4.	<p>Item 4a – Central schools block funding 2017/18</p> <p>Sue Summerscales presented the report and invited questions and comments.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION</p> <p>That the Schools Forum:</p> <p>1) Approve the Authority’s application to centrally retain funding within the DSG for the services set out at Appendix A.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="252 1697 1329 1771"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="252 1697 624 1733">For</th> <th data-bbox="624 1697 994 1733">Against</th> <th data-bbox="994 1697 1329 1733">Abstentions</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="252 1733 624 1771">12</td> <td data-bbox="624 1733 994 1771">0</td> <td data-bbox="994 1733 1329 1771">1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	For	Against	Abstentions	12	0	1	
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	<p>Item 4b – DSG final accounts report 2016/17</p> <p>Sue Summerscales presented a report and invited questions and comments.</p> <p>Chris Walton requested clarification of the EY sustainability committed from the DSG reserve in 2017/18. Sue explained that this was previously a factor in the Early Years formula but as it is longer an allowable factor a request has been submitted to the Secretary of State to pay the amount form the DSG reserve for 2017/18 only.</p>							

	<p>James McGeachie requested further information about the Growth Fund underspend and Carry Forward. Mike Sharp explained that further information will be given as part of agenda item 4g.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION</p> <p>That the Schools Forum:</p> <p>1) Note the contents of the report – report was noted</p>							
	<p>Item 4c – NCC’s use of the DSG high needs block 2017/18</p> <p>Marion Clay talked through the high needs block presentation.</p> <p>Debbie Clinton and Chris Walton commented on the usefulness of the presentation.</p> <p>Discussion took place on the reasons behind the high and increasing cost of SEND home to school transport to NCC.</p> <p>Dawn Wigley asked for more information on the use of the £9.461 million allocated for expenditure on Independent non maintained schools and alternative provision and whether working with mainstream schools could reduce it.</p> <p>Marion Clay explained that the following alternative provision paper would partially answer these questions and that growth of provision will be discussed at the next meeting in September.</p> <p>Chris Walton asked for confirmation that no new special schools had been agreed at this time. This was confirmed by Marion.</p>	MC						
	<p>Item 4d – DSG high needs block pressures 2017/18</p> <p>Marion Clay presented the paper and explained the reasons for the financial pressures being faced by the high needs block in 2017/18.</p> <p>It was suggested that the Schools Forum lobby MPs as using the reserve masks problems and can only be a temporary solution.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION/S</p> <p>That the Schools Forum:</p> <p>1. Approves the use of £0.891 million from the accumulated DSG reserve to cover projected budget pressures in 2017/18</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="204 1646 1311 1720"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="204 1646 584 1682">Votes for</th> <th data-bbox="584 1646 963 1682">Votes against</th> <th data-bbox="963 1646 1311 1682">Abstentions</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="204 1682 584 1720" style="text-align: center;">13</td> <td data-bbox="584 1682 963 1720" style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td data-bbox="963 1682 1311 1720" style="text-align: center;">0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions	13	0	0	
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	<p>Item 4e – Alternative Provision Free Schools</p> <p>Linda Foster presented the paper.</p> <p>Linda explained that MATs are considering opening AP Free Schools within Nottinghamshire and that NCC will be liable to pay the place and top up funding for the children on their roll.</p> <p>In instances where a school has placed a child in an AP Free School the placing school will be liable to pay the place and top up funding.</p>							

	<p>A paper will be brought to the next Schools Forum to summarise a piece of work that will be carried out by NCC officers on the cost of provision within Nottinghamshire.</p> <p>Helen Atkins commented on the importance of monitoring the opening of AP Free Schools and any additional pressure they put on the High Needs Block.</p> <p>Ly Toom asked if there was a cap on the amount that an AP Free School could charge NCC? It was confirmed that there is not.</p> <p>Dick Vasey commented that it may be difficult to engage MATS in this piece of work.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION/S</p> <p>That the Schools Forum:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Feedback to local area Head teachers and encourage them to engage in the data gathering and verifying activity. – This was agreed. 	<p>LF</p>						
	<p>Item 4f – Heads Count</p> <p>Adrienne Alcock presented the paper and clarified the work of the organisation.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION/S</p> <p>That the Schools Forum:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the contents of the report – report was noted. 2. Agree to make an allocation to Heads Count of £37,950 in 2017/18 from the DSG reserve. <table border="1" data-bbox="204 1144 1311 1216"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="204 1144 584 1178">Votes for</th> <th data-bbox="584 1144 963 1178">Votes against</th> <th data-bbox="963 1144 1311 1178">Abstentions</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="204 1178 584 1216">13</td> <td data-bbox="584 1178 963 1216">0</td> <td data-bbox="963 1178 1311 1216">0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions	13	0	0	
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Item 4g – Report on the distribution of the Pupil Growth fund (staffing and non-staffing) for 2017/18

Mike Sharpe introduced the paper and explained the rationale behind the allocations from the fund for 2017/18.

Adrienne Alcock asked what the cut off point for a school to receive an allocation from the fund was. Mike confirmed that it was currently for Infants (key stage 1) and that School Forum would have the chance to vote on extending this to support key stage 2 for ½ form entry expansions.

Ly Toom suggested that this would be unfair on schools who would have been eligible in previous years.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Schools Forum:

1. Notes the content of the report and agrees the allocations made from the growth fund arising from previously agreed criteria – report was noted.
2. Continues to monitor the use of this fund throughout 2017-18, & considers the level of funding & criteria for future years, in light of any in-year allocations.
3. Agrees the indicative 3rd term funding for the £111,728 schools requiring 3 term support. – Already agreed.
4. Agrees to extend pupil growth fund support into Key stage 2 for ½ form entry expansions. These allocations to be made in NCY 3 and NCY 5 (4th and 6th year after expansion).

Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions
11	0	1

5. Agrees retrospective funding of previously unreported schools

Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions
11	0	1

6. Agrees funding of 2017/18 basic need allocations

Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions
12	0	0

Item 4h – Pupil Growth Fund – Enhanced Key Stage And New Schools

Mike Sharpe introduced the paper and explained that all information in the report had been covered in the report and discussion during item g.

Mike drew attention to point 16 as there is likely to be a school requiring ‘start up’ funding in the near future,

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Schools Forum:

- 1) Consider the report – report was considered
- 2) Agree the level of Growth Fund Support for ½ FE expanded schools – voted on as agenda item 4g
- 3) Agree the level of Growth Fund support for new schools

Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions
12	0	0

Item 4i – Nottinghamshire Early Years Agreement 2017-18

Irene Kakoullis presented the report and explained it had been written as per a national EFA directive.

Irene explained that NCC had been audited in 2016/17 and it had been noted that decision making and value for money checking were not monitored stringently enough.

Irene asked that the attached Provider agreement be signed by all providers from 2017/18 onwards.

Karen O’Connell commented that PVIs were aware of the agreement and had always signed it.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Schools Forum:

Note the contents of the report and endorse plans for school compliance with Nottinghamshire’s Early Years Funding Agreement.

Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions
12	0	0

Item 4j – Review of School Forum Membership.

Sue Summerscales introduced the report and listed the current and upcoming Forum vacancies.

Adrian O’Malley asked for clarification on who can represent Special Schools and Academies.

*SS Response: Issued with the minutes is a document which details the type of member who can represent specific school groups. For maintained schools this can be a Headteacher or their representative (ESFA advice is a senior member of staff/member of the school’s leadership team) and governors. For academies this can be **any** type of member and ESFA advice is someone in a senior position.*

RECOMMENDATION

That the Schools Forum:

- 1) Notes the content of the report. – Report was noted
- 2) Agrees to the membership as set out in paragraph 4 of the report.

Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions
12	0	0

- 3) Considers a method by which to reduce the number of maintained primary members by one. – It was advised that two of the primary representatives would be leaving the Forum in September due to academisation. Further discussion is required at Trust Boards to decide how primary representatives will organise themselves in the future.

SS

Any Other Business

Anne Hall requested discussion on the formula used to allocate the AFN and FNF budget at a future Forum Meeting.

	Marion Clay informed the Forum that she will pass this query to Charles Savage in order that he discusses with SENCOS	MC				
7.	Confidentiality No items were identified as confidential.					
8.	Date and time of next meeting(s) <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Thursday 19th October 2017</td> <td>2-4pm National Watersports Centre</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thursday 7th December 2017</td> <td>2-4pm National Watersports Centre</td> </tr> </table>	Thursday 19 th October 2017	2-4pm National Watersports Centre	Thursday 7 th December 2017	2-4pm National Watersports Centre	
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