

MINUTES OF MEETING

Meeting title: Nottinghamshire Schools Forum
Date and time: 9 February 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)
	Ms H Richardson	Maintained Primary Head Teacher (Newark)
	Ms L Regan	Maintained Primary Head Teacher (Ashfield)
	Ms L Toom	Maintained Primary Head Teacher (Rushcliffe)
	Mr Adrian Nash	Maintained Primary Head Teacher (Broxtowe)
A	Mr R Hawley	Maintained Secondary Head Teacher
A	Mr C Weaver	Academy Representative
	Mr C Pickering	Academy Representative
A	Mr D Vasey	Academy Representative
A	Ms D Trusler	Academy Representative
A	Mr J McGeachie	Academy Representative
	Ms D Wigley	Special School Head Teacher
	Mr A O'Malley	Academy Special School Head Teacher
	Mr T Colton	Governor - Maintained Secondary
	Ms V Holland	Governor - Maintained Primary
A	Ms C Walton	PVI - Early Years Group Member
	Ms K O'Connell	PVI - Early Years Group Member
	Mr C Cuomo	Diocesan Representative - (Chair)
A	Ms C Meese	Diocesan Representative
	Ms L Maddison	Trades Union Representative
	Mr A Prideaux	Trades Union Representative
	Mr J Jefferies	Trades Union Representative

In attendance:

Mrs M Clay	Acting Service Director – Education Standards & Inclusion
Mrs T Rabbitts	Senior Finance Business Partner, CFCS Finance
Mr M Sharpe	School Place Planning Team Manager
Mrs N Hughes	Senior Professional Practitioner
Mr S Hawkins	Finance Business Partner, CFCS Finance

1.	<p>Welcome</p> <p>Carlo Cuomo welcomed all members to the meeting.</p>	
2.	<p>Apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies were received from Colin Pettigrew, Chris Walton, Ly Toom, Ryan Hawley and Michael Davies</p>	
3.	<p>Item 3a Minutes from Forum 8 December 2016</p> <p><u>Item 3a – Minutes from Forum 20th October 2016</u> Carlo Cuomo suggested that due to a continued lack of clarity on the funding of the 'Pint size Theatre' production from the TETC fund, a letter should be sent to Schools explaining their entitlement. This was agreed.</p> <p><u>Item 4d – Nottinghamshire's review of arrangements for SEND report</u> Louise Regan requested clarification on how the Forum will receive updates on progress. Carlo Cuomo confirmed that Matt Rooney will provide information at a future meeting. Marion Clay added that NCC are currently awaiting feedback from RSC on their bids for additional places.</p> <p><u>Item 4e – Early Years Central Expenditure</u> Karen O'Connell pointed out that the agreed recommendation was to retain £1.057 million and not 2.6% of the annual Early Years block, and the minutes were amended accordingly</p> <p>Minutes were approved as accurate</p>	<p>ACTION</p> <p>MC</p>
4.	<p>Item 4a – Pupil Growth Fund Underspend</p> <p>Mike Sharp presented a report and invited questions and comments.</p> <p>Mike stated that he forecast expenditure of at least £800,000 in 2017/18 and that it was likely that further expenditure would be incurred due to admissions appeals and challenges following the 'siblings review'.</p> <p>Marion Clay added that the EFA had proposed funding the LA's 2018-19 growth fund on an historic basis.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION/S</p> <p>That the Schools Forum:</p> <p>1) Note the contents of the report – report was noted</p>	
	<p>Item 4b – Early Years rates 2017-18</p> <p>Tamsin Rabbitts presented the paper and gave an explanation of the reasons behind the 'sustainability' and FSM factors no longer being allowable in the Early Years Funding Formula.</p> <p>Tamsin explained that NCC would receive a higher PTE funding rate from the EFA in 2017/18 and that there is a requirement to create an 'SEN Inclusion Fund' from the Early Years and/or High Needs Blocks.</p>	

RECOMMENDATION/S**That the Schools Forum:**

- 1) Note the contents of the report – report was noted
- 2) Votes on whether to delegate the maximum amount of funds to providers by not withholding any funds for contingency purposes.

For	Against	Abstentions
11	0	1

Item 4d – School Sustainability 2017-18

Tamsin Rabbitts presented the paper.

Tamsin explained that ‘sustainability’ payments were no longer allowable in the Early Years funding formula and that 19 schools were expecting the payment for 2017/18.

Tamsin proposed that the payments of £3,543 to 19 schools (£65,607 in total) be made from the DSG reserve.

Adrienne Alcock confirmed the importance of this final payment to the 19 schools who were expecting to receive it.

RECOMMENDATION/S**That the Schools Forum:**

1. Notes the content of the report- report was noted.
2. Support the payment of this amount from the DSG reserve, subject to Secretary of State approval.

Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions
12	0	0

NCC will submit a disapplication request to the Secretary of State to request permission to make these payments from the DSG reserve.

SH**Item 4c – ALT request Trade Union Facilities**

Marion Clay presented the paper.

Marion reminded the forum of discussions held in previous School Forum meetings surrounding a request made to the Forum to fund the trade union duties of an officer outside of Nottinghamshire.

Joe Jeffries asked for it to be noted on behalf of Trade Unions that they had no knowledge of this request.

Louise Regan pointed out the precedent that accepting this request would make.

Marion Clay confirmed that guidance from NCC’s legal and HR departments dictates that the forum are not obliged to accept this request.

Louise Regan asked how NCC ensure that Academies who do not pay in to the service do not claim the benefit.

Joe Jeffries confirmed that Richard Browne keeps records of Academies that have paid in to the service.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Schools Forum:

1. Considers the request by ATL, specifically those points listed in paragraph 6 of the report.

Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions
0	9	1

Item 4e – National Funding Formula

Tamsin Rabbitts presented the paper and reminded the Forum that the EFA's consultation was still open.

Tamsin informed the Forum that changes in IDACI data made comparisons with NCC's local formula for 2016/17 difficult.

Tamsin informed the Forum of the need for future discussion on how to fund schools in 2018/19, the soft year of implementation of the National Funding Formula.

Carlo Cuomo asked the Forum whether members would like to formulate a collective Schools Forum response and if so, how would this be written?

Louise Regan suggested that the Schools Forum should submit a collective response but that it was also important for individual schools to respond.

Joe Jeffries expressed F40s disappointment in the overall level of funding that the NFF allocated to Nottinghamshire's Schools.

Carlo Cuomo stated that he also believed the Forum should work collaboratively on a response and that a working group should be created to create a response for distribution to Forum members before submission.

Marion Clay informed the Forum that she was leading on NCC's response to the High Needs Consultation that was also still open.

Louise Regan told the Forum that Nottingham City Council had written to all parents to encourage them to respond to the consultation and enquired whether NCC could do the same.

MC

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Schools Forum:

1. Notes the content of the report- report was noted.
2. Considers responding to the consultation on a joint or individual schools basis.
3. Establishes a working party to make recommendations to the Schools Forum about the best transitional approach for 2018-19.

A working party was created to look at recommendations 2 and 3.

Item 4f – Mount School and Tolney lane

Helen Richardson presented the paper that had been written by the Headteacher of Mount School, Claire Kent.

Helen asked that the Forum agreed to a gradual withdrawal of the funds to allow the setting time to adjust.

Forum was told that the setting has a highly inclusive and integrative relationship with their local community.

Helen Atkins informed that Forum that similar provision exists in Mansfield and Warsop without this exceptional funding.

Tony Colton expressed his concern on the Forum’s decision having an impact on the surrounding community.

Tamsin Rabbitts informed the Forum that any future payments would have to be made from the DSG reserve with Secretary of State approval.

RECOMMENDATION/S**That the Schools Forum:**

1. Considers the request by Mount School for a gradual reduction of funding with 2017/18 being funded from the DSG reserve.

Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions
1	6	5

Item 4g – Future Dates for Forum Meeting

Tamsin Rabbitts informed the Forum that the meeting scheduled for 14 September could not take place at NWSC. It was agreed that this meeting should be moved to 19 September at NWSC.

5. Any Other Business

There was additional business to discuss.

7. Confidentiality

No items were identified as confidential.

8. Date and time of next meeting(s)

Thursday 8 th June 2017	2-4pm National Watersports Centre
Tuesday 19 th September 2017	2-4pm National Watersports Centre
Thursday 19 th October 2017	2-4pm National Watersports Centre
Thursday 7 th December 2017	2-4pm National Watersports Centre