

## **SCHOOLS FORUM**

MEETING, 1ST MARCH, 2019

### **Representing Primary School Head teachers**

Rob Dean	St Thomas of Chequerbent Primary School
Claire Whalley	Sunning Hill primary School
Jo Briggs	Hardy Mill Primary School

### **Representing Primary School Governors**

Mike Doyle	Pikes Lane Primary School
Pauline Lewis	St John's Kearsley Primary School
Anthony Slack	Walmsley / All Saints Primary Schools

### **Representing Secondary Head teachers**

Phil Hart (Vice-Chairman)	Westhoughton High School
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### **Representing Secondary School Governors**

Joanne Murphy	Westhoughton High School
Patti Jones	St. Joseph's RC High School

### **Representing Special Schools**

Gary Johnson	Rumworth School
Holly Bonfield	Orchards Federation

### **Representing Academy Schools**

Jo Atherton	Essa Primary
Dominic McKeon	Little Lever School

### **Representing Diocese**

Nicola Rabbett	RC Diocese
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### **Representing Early Years Settings**

Sue Pounds	Nursery Schools
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Peter Rogers

PVI

### **Representing the Unions**

Don Grant

Joint Teachers Unions

### **Also in Attendance**

Councillor Cunliffe

BMBC

Anthony Birch

People Department

Paul Rankin

People Department

Lisa Butcher

People Department

Julie Edwards

People Department

Ian Mulholland

Democratic Services

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Helen Shearer, Lauren Alergant, David Smith, Dave Bevitt, Vicky Chatterjee and Jo Atherton.

Mr. M. Doyle in the Chair

## **33. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Schools Forum held on 11th January, 2019 were submitted.

Resolved – That the minutes of the last meeting be signed as a correct record.

## **34. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

There were none to report.

## **35. FINANCIAL MONITORING – QUARTER THREE 2018/19**

The Interim Director of People and the Director of Corporate Resources submitted a joint report which provided information relating to the financial position for the Dedicated Schools Grant for the 2018/19 financial year, as at quarter three.

A revised table one was also tabled.

Members in their discussions referred to the centrally held reserves position which continues to fall and matters around the strategic response to this.

Resolved – (i) That the quarter three position be noted.

(ii) That this Forum places on record its concern regarding the centrally held reserves position which continues to fall.

### **36. SCHEME FOR FINANCING SCHOOLS**

The Interim Director of People and the Director of Corporate Resources submitted a report which sought approval for the Scheme for Financing Schools from April, 2019.

The report explained that under sections 48 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, and Schedule 14 to the Act, each Local Authority had to publish a Scheme for Financing Schools. The Scheme set out the financial relationship between the Authority and the maintained schools which it funded, it contained requirements relating to financial management and associated issues, binding on both the Authority and schools.

The Scheme covered all Community, Voluntary Aided and Foundation Schools; and covered all sectors. The Scheme excluded Academies.

A full copy of the Scheme was attached in the Appendix.

Members in their discussions referred to –

- The recording of items in asset registers;
- school balances especially schools with small balances, now bearing in mind the evidential direction of travel;
- insurance and the options to shop around; and
- Section 1.6, Delegation of Powers to Headteachers and the seemingly small amounts.

Resolved – (i) That the Scheme for Financing Schools be approved.

(ii) That in relation to Section 1.6, Delegation of Powers to Headteachers and the seemingly small amounts, the background to this be looked at and reported back to this meeting.

### **37. FORMULA REVIEW SUB-GROUP MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Formula Review Sub-Group held on 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2019 were submitted.

Members referred to matters around the Trade Union SLA and action was needed as this came into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2019.

Resolved – (i) That the minutes be noted.

(ii) That in respect of the Trade Union SLA, Mr Paul Rankin be asked to contact Lee Fallows and update the Forum on the position.

### **38. EARLY YEARS SUB-GROUP MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Early Years Sub-Group held on 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2019 were submitted.

Resolved – That the minutes be noted .

### **39. HIGH NEEDS SUB-GROUP MINUTES**

The minutes of the High Needs Sub-Group held on 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2019 were submitted.

Resolved – That the minutes be noted.

(The meeting started at 2.00pm and finished at 3.02pm)