

SCHOOLS FORUM

MEETING, 17th SEPTEMBER ,2021

Representing Primary School Head teachers

Claire Whalley	Sunning Hill primary School
Vicky Chatterjee	Clarendon Primary School
Jo Briggs	Hardy Mill Primary School

Representing Primary School Governors

David Bevitt	Devonshire Road Primary School
Daniel Gauld	Heathfield Primary School
Clair Beswick	Johnson Fold Primary School

Representing Secondary School Governors

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

Representing Secondary School Headteachers

Andrea O'Callaghan	Thornleigh College
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Representing Academy Schools

Simon Bramwell	Vantage Academy Trust
Rachel Lucas	Bolton St. Catherine's Academy

Representing Early Years Settings

Sue Pounds	Grosvenor Nursery School
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Representing the RC Diocese

Nicola Rabbett	RC Diocese
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Representing Academy AP Settings

David Smith

Bolton Impact Trust

Representing Special Schools

Susan Tailor (Vice-Chairman)

Ladywood School

Representing the Unions

Lauren Alergant

Unison

Matthew Wilkinson

Joint Teaching Unions

Also in Attendance

Councillor Galloway

BMBC

Geraldine Whitehead

Assistant Director Inclusive Education and Learning

Julie Edwards

Chief Executives Department

Lisa Butcher

Chief Executives Department

Laura Wright

Start Well Service

(as deputy for Helen Shearer)

Ian D Mulholland

Democratic Services

Apologies for absence were submitted by Julie Robinson, Rob Dean, Sarah Greenhalgh, Helen Shearer and Martin Knowles)

Daniel Gauld, Chairman

31. DECLARTIONS OF INTEREST

Clair Beswick declared an interest as the owner of a private day nursery.

32. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

The Chairman, Daniel Gauld mentioned that Rob Dean would be standing down from the membership of the Forum. On behalf of the Forum he thanked Rob for all his hard work over many years which also included on the Sub-Groups.

33. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Schools Forum held on 2nd July, 2021 were submitted.

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

34. THE AGM

The Director of Children's Services and the Deputy Chief Executive submitted a joint report which detailed items to be covered in the AGM including the constitution for 2021/22.

The report specifically set out details in terms of:-

- Membership of the Forum for the coming year;
- The programme of meetings and forward plan for the forthcoming year; and
- The updated Constitution of the Forum and it's Sub-Groups.

Resolved – That the report including the membership and constitution for 2021/22 be agreed.

35. DSG FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORT, QUARTER ONE, 2021/22

The Director of Children's Services and the Deputy Chief Executive submitted a report which provided information in relation to the financial position for the Dedicated Schools Grant for the 2021/22 financial year as at quarter one.

Resolved – That the expected financial position as at 31st March, 2022 and the changes in the capital programme be noted.

36. SCHOOL FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS 2022/23

The Director of Children's Services and the Deputy Chief Executive submitted a joint report which updated the Forum on recent announcements for education funding for 2022-23.

The report explained that in 2022/23 each authority would continue to set a local schools funding formula in consultation with local schools. HM Government had published a consultation regarding plans to move to a hard National funding Formula in the future and this would determine school funding allocations directly, rather than local funding formulae.

The operational guidance for 2022-23 had been published. This set out how Local Authorities should implement the funding arrangements and pass funding to schools.

Increases built into the National Funding Formula:-

- 3% increase to basic entitlement, FSM ever 6, IDACI, low prior attainment, EAL and lump sum, 2% increase FSM;

- 2% increase to the Minimum Per Pupil Levels (MPPLs). This provides per-pupil funding of at least £4,265 for each primary school, and £5,525 for each secondary school;
- 2% increase to the funding floor ; and
- 0% increase to premises factors, besides PFI funding which had increased by RPIX.

Members in their discussions referred to the impact on the high needs block.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

37. NATIONAL FUNDING FORMULA CONSULTATION

The Director of Children's Services and the Deputy Chief Executive submitted a joint report which informed members of the HM Government consultation, Fair Funding for All : completing our reforms to the National Funding Formula.

The report explained that responses to the consultation were to be submitted by 30th September, 2021 and feedback was sought on the proposals on what the direct NFF should look like.

The consultation posed a number of questions and the Forum considered each in turn.

Resolved – That the report and responses be noted.

38. FORMULA REVIEW SUB-GROUP MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 20th July and 10th September, 2021 were submitted.

Members discussed the safety valve funding and the Forum was updated in this regard.

Resolved – (i) That the minutes be noted.

(ii) That the Forum be kept updated regarding the safety valve funding developments.