

LEWISHAM SCHOOLS FORUM

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 17th March 2016

Membership (Quorum = 40% i.e. 8) ✓ = present ✕ = absent a = apologies

		Attendance				
		01/10	10/12	19/01	04/02	17/03
Primary School Headteachers						
Liz Booth	Dalmain	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Paul Moriarty	Good Shepherd	a	✓	✓	✓	✓
Michael Roach	John Ball	a	✓	a	✓	✓
Sharon Lynch	St William of York	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Keith Barr	Kender	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Nursery School Headteacher						
Nikki Oldhams	Chelwood	✓	✓	✓	a	a
Secondary School Headteachers						
Jan Shapiro	Addey & Stanhope		✕	✓	✓	a
Bob Ellis	Conisborough College	✓	✓	✓	a	a
David Sheppard	Leathersellers Federation	✓	✓	✓	✕	✓
VACANT	SECONDARY					
Special School Headteacher						
Lynne Haines (Chair)	Greenvale	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pupil Referral Unit Headteacher						
Liz Jones	Abbey Manor	✓	✓	✓	a	✓
Primary School Governors						
Rosamund Clarke	Perrymount		✓	a	✓	✓
Dame Erica Pienaar (Vice-Chair)	John Ball	✓	a	a	✓	✓
VACANT	PRIMARY					
Secondary & Special School Governors						
Pat Barber	Bonus Pastor	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Jim Pollard	Addey & Stanhope	✓	✓	✓	✕	✓
Ruth Elliot	Watergate			✓	✓	✓
Academies						
Declan Jones	Haberdashers' Aske's	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
14-19 Consortium Rep						
VACANT	14-19 Consortium					
Early Years Rep						

Cathryn Kinsey	Clyde Nursery	✓	a	✓	✓	✓
Diocesan Authorities						
Rev Richard Peers	Southwark Diocesan Board of Education	a	x	a	a	a
Stephen Bryan	Education Commission	a	x	x	x	x

Also Present	
Dave Richards	CYP Group Finance Manager
Sara Williams	Executive Director for CYP
Selwyn Thompson	Head of Financial Services
Kate Bond	Head of Standards & Achievement
Warwick Tomsett	Head of Commissioning Strategy & Performance
Hayden Judd	Schools Principal Accountant

1. Apologies and Acceptance of Apologies

Apologies received from Bob Ellis, Nikki Oldhams, Jan Shapiro and Father Richard Peers. Apologies accepted.

There were no substitutes.

2. Minutes of the Meeting held 4th February 2016

Minutes were agreed.

3. Matters Arising

- Alternative Provision report is on agenda
- Gordon Gillespie, LeSoCo has been appointed as 14-19 Consortium representative.
- A new PVI representative is to be sought

4. Banding Review

Agreement being sought on moving forward with the banding model as detailed in reports. The new banding model will be more equitable and transparent.

Work on the banding model has already been undertaken with special schools, schools with units/bases/places and mainstream schools.

If agreed tonight the project will move onto costing the banding model. The intention is that the move to the new banding model will be cost neutral.

Decision:

- To implement a new banding system (added by meeting)
- That the costing of the banding model takes place by December 2016, and the consultation on the model is delegated to the High Needs Sub-Group as part of this process.
- That the partial implementation in September 2016 be incorporated into the main implementation in April 2017.

5. Alternative Provision Review

The proposals represent the implementation of savings agreed at the December Forum and deal with

- the historic accretion of funding for specific projects
- bringing the funding method in line with DfE reforms
- higher funding rates than can be found in comparable provision.

It was noted that the savings were being brought to the Forum prior to the full Alternative Provision Review report. The scale of the review and the amount of work with schools mean that it is not yet complete. However, the DSG Hi Needs block pressure requires early action and the decision on savings cannot wait. Reassurance was given regarding the importance placed on AP by the LA, the continued need for places and the creation of a commissioning pot from a proportion of the savings is intended to enhance the provision.

Decision:

- Saving – Abbey Manor College – Support For SEN Learners - £244k in 2016/17 and £177k in 2017/18
- Saving – Abbey Manor College – Intervention Funding - £158k in 2016/17
- Saving – New Woodlands – Equalisation Of Funding Bands - £170k in 2016/17 and £120k in 2017/18
- Saving – Abbey Manor College – Medical Programme - £70k in 2017/18
- Saving – Abbey Manor College – Social Worker - £45k in 2017/18
- Saving – New Woodlands – Social Worker - £45k in 2017/18
- Saving – Abbey Manor College – Teenage Pregnancy - £97k in 2017/18
- Of the above savings of £1,126k, £625k to be applied to the DSG Hi Needs Block pressure and £501k to be used for a central commissioning fund.



6. School Funding Reform

The contents of the DfE's Schools Block and High Needs Block consultations were presented to the Forum.

The addition of a secondary head to the task group was discussed.

Decision:

- The report was noted.
- Forum delegates the task of responding to the consultation to the task group.

7. Financial Update & Budget Monitoring Report

The future transparency in funding agreements welcomed.

The impact of NNDR re-valuation and DfE funding reforms on NNDR funding were discussed.

Decision:

- £79k Contingency Fund bid from Holbeach/Edmund Waller agreed.
- Use of Contingency Fund to cover £313k NNDR bill (including backdating) for Beecroft Primary School.

8. Annual Review of the Scheme Of Delegation and Finance Manual

The debtor's policy was outlined and discussed.

The advantages to schools as a whole of a loan scheme were outlined and the continuation of existing licenced deficit agreements was confirmed.

Decision:

- The Forum confirmed the debtor's policy.
- The Forum asks officers to remind schools of the debtor's policy.
- The Forum agrees to incorporate into the Scheme of Delegation the facility for schools to have a loan from the schools carry forwards to finance a budget deficit.

- To adopt the new Council's updated Whistleblowing policy in the Scheme of Delegation

9. Proposed Dates For Future Meetings And The Work Plan For The Coming Year

With the DfE's plans to introduce an entitlement of 30 hours of early education and the consequent DfE review of early years funding, it was suggested that an Early Years Sub-Group be established.

Paul Moriarty, Keith Barr, Michael Roach, Cathryn Kinsey and Nikki Oldhams all volunteered for the group.

Decision:

- The Forum agreed the establishment of an Early Years Sub-Group (added by meeting)

10. Education Commission

No one from the Commission was available, so the item was deferred.

11. Any Other Business

No other business was raised.

Meeting closed

Date of next meeting:-

30 June 4.30 to 6.30pm

SCHOOLS FORUM ACTION SUMMARY

ITEM	ACTION TO BE TAKEN	OFFICER (S) RESPONSIBLE	OUTCOME/ CURRENT POSITION
Minutes of 19 March 2015	Follow up action re. Rushey Green backdated NNDR bill	Hayden Judd	On-going
Forum Membership March 2016	Hold Elections For PVI Representative	Warwick Tomsett	Pending

Sub Group Membership March 2016	Add Secondary Head to Formula Consultation Task Group	Warwick Tomsett	Pending
CATERING	Remind Schools Of Debtors Policy	Dave Richards	Actioned
Forum Membership March 2016	Establish Year Years Task Group	Warwick Tomsett / Dave Richards	Pending