

DRAFT

LEWISHAM SCHOOLS FORUM

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 21st October 2021

Membership (Quorum = 40% i.e. 9) ✓ = present ✕ = absent a = apologies
s = substitute

		Attendance				
Primary School Headteachers		19/ 01	06/ 05	10/ 06	21/ 10	Date of Appointment
VACANT	PRIMARY					
Manda George	Torridon Primary	✓	✓	✓	✓	Dec 2018
Sharon Lynch	St William of York	✓	✓	✓	✓	Dec 2018
Keith Barr	Kender	✓	✓	✓	✓	Dec 2018
Matthew Ringham	Our Lady & St Philip Neri	✓	✓	✓	✓	Dec 2018
David Lucas	Trinity	✓	✓	✓	✓	Jan 2021
Maxine Osbaldeston	Launcelot	✓	✓	✓	✓	Jan 2021
Nursery School Headteacher						
Nikki Oldhams	Chelwood Nursery	✓	a	a	a	Oct 2020
Secondary School Headteachers						
Naill Hand	Prendergast Ladywell	✓	✓	✓	✓	July 2019
Michael Sullivan	Forest Hill	✓	✓	✓	a	Jan 2020
Special School Headteacher						
Lynne Haines	Greenvale	✓	✓	✓	✓	Dec 2021 – re-elected
Pupil Referral Unit Headteacher						
Heather Johnston	Abbey Manor	✓	✓	✓	✓	Dec 2020
Primary School Governors						

Rosamund Clarke	Perrymount	✓	✓	✓	✓	Dec 2018
Peter Fidel	Eliot Bank and Gordonbrock Federation			✓	✓	June 2021
Secondary & Special School Governors						
Pat Barber	Bonus Pastor	a	✓	✓	✓	Dec 2018
Andy Rothery	Leathersellers Federation			✓	a	June 2021
VACANT	SPECIAL SCHOOL					
Academies						
Miz Mann	STEP Academy Trust				a	Oct 2021
Ann Butcher	Childeric			✓	x	June 2021
14-19 Consortium Rep						
Asfa Sohail	Lewisham Southwark College	✓	✓	✓	✓	Mar 2019
Early Years – PVI						
VACANT						
Diocesan Authorities						
Sara Sanbrook-Davies	Southwark Diocesan Board of Education	✓	✓	✓	✓	Dec 2019
Yvonne Epale	Education Commission – Catholic Diocese of Southwark	✓	✓	✓	✓	May 2021- re-elected
Lynne Haines	Forum Chair	✓	✓	✓	✓	Forum Chair election pending
Keith Barr	Forum Vice-Chair	✓	✓	✓	✓	Oct 2017

Observers/Others in attendance		
Director CYP	Angela Scattergood	
Strategic Business Partner	Mala Dadlani	
Director CYP	Angela Scattergood	
Business Partner	Lurenco Reynolds-Moxam	Post agenda Item 5
Business Partner	Dipesh Gajmer	Post agenda item 5

Kilmorie Primary School	Julie Loffstadt	
Leathersellers Federation	Tony Marnham	
Director of Finance	David Austin	
Student – Goldsmiths University	Khushi.r. Jain	
NEU	James Kerr	
Clerk	Janita Aubun	

1. Apologies and Acceptance of Apologies

Apologies accepted from Nikki Oldhams, Michael Sullivan, Andy Rothery and Miz Mann.

The Chair along with other forum members welcomed new members of the forum: -
 Andy Rothery from Leathersellers Federation; Peter Fidel from Eliot Bank and
 Gordonbrock Federation and Ann Butcher from Childeric.

2. Declaration of Interest

None

3. Minutes of meeting on 10th June 2021

Typo with spelling of Forum member name on page 4 - noted.

4. Matters arising

Chair thanked the Strategic Business Partner for the Forum Member training set up earlier this term. Feedback was very positive; the session was noted as helpful, informative and well attended.

Agreed /noted that the session would be re- run in January 2022 for expected new starters.

Term time only – awaiting detailed information from payroll to calculate final liabilities including support to those schools who may face particular hardship (report due at December meeting).

5. Schools Finance Service 2022/23 & 2023/24 – Continuation of Support

The purpose of this report was to discuss options to continue to finance the support provided to schools by the finance team. Forum were advised that the Finance Team has delivered on all outcomes including providing extensive support to schools during the

Covid period and where necessary direct intervention to support the school to continue with business as usual.

Forum was asked to consider two options

Options for agreement:-

Option 1 - Schools Forum support a collective agreement covering nursery, primary, special, secondary schools and the PRU.

Option 2 - Schools Forum does not support a collective agreement.

Decision:-

Schools Forum unanimously agreed

- To support Schools Finance with a further two year de-delegation support. (April 2022 to March 2024)

6. National Funding Formula (consultation) – update of key points

Purpose of this document was to provide a summary briefing with regards to the NFF consultation launched by the DfE. Forum were presented with the final response as submitted by Lewisham council, i.e. Appendix A. Additionally, there was Appendix B which is the response submitted by London Councils that covers the full London position.

The consultation document also confirmed a number of changes in particular to the Central Services Block – which will have significant implications for Lewisham Council and the services provided to schools. The report also included a representation made by Cllr Barnham to the Secretary of State for Education. (Appendix C)

Officers advised that Lewisham Council was already complying with the NFF for those elements that are part of the NFF - as such no impact is anticipated in relation to this.

However there are some areas that are not yet part of the formula. DfE has provided assurances that detailed consultation would be undertaken with Local Authorities. These include:-

- PFI
- Split sites
- Lump sum
- Exceptional factors
- NNDR

NNDR/Rates

The DfE will be amending their approach to NNDR. Part of the process will include an upload of rates to a portal. The value will be top sliced from the council's main allocation.

All things being equal, this should not have an impact on schools budgets as the expectation remains pound for pound funding.

However it is not clear how this will be shown in each schools accounts. E.g. notional etc.

Harmonisation of funding by academic year

Insufficient information at present for the LA to make a decision.

Whilst it was noted how schools would welcome the parity to academic year, there was concern raised that funding may be lost.

Decision:-

Schools Forum agreed the following:-

- To note this report including the consultation responses from Lewisham (Appendix A), and London Councils (Appendix B).
- To note the significant implications for Lewisham Council and Schools arising from the ongoing reduction in the Central Schools Services Block and now the confirmation of changes that will effectively result in cessation of funding from 2023/24.
- To further note that detailed work is currently being undertaken to review and mitigate the impact.

7. Dedicated Schools Grant 2021/22 and provisional update on 2022/23

This was a standard report to schools forum providing a periodic update on the 2021/22 DSG update and projected outturn, plus to provide additional updates with regards to the provisional 2022/23 funding settlement. Report Item 7, Appendix A, provided detailed actions which are being progressed as part of the High Needs Schools Forum working group. A verbal update from High Needs was provided to Forum and this was informed.

This report was presented to Forum for information only.

8. Schools Forum Membership/Chair & Vice-Chair

Schools Forum Chair's term of office expiration today and now formally stands down as Chair. Lynne Haines was thanked for her service and all the hard work she has provided in chairing schools forum. Members to express interests for consideration between now and next Forum – inform Clerk.

Election of Vice-Chair must be the first item at the December meeting.

*Noted that there needs to remain a level of continuity come the December meeting, with the number of member terms of office expiring then.

*Note - Lynne Haines has been re-appointed as Special School Head representative on Forum.

9. Any Other Business

Future meetings

16/12/2021

20/01/2022 (Provisional)

All Schools Forum meetings will be held between 16:30-18:30

Sub Group meetings

High Needs Sub Group

2nd December 2021

10 – 11.30

6th January 2022

10-11:30

Schools Forum Action Summary

Item	Action to be taken	Officer(s) responsible	Outcome/Current position
7 - Schools Forum 10 th June 2021	Devise criteria for consideration by Schools Forum to determine eligible schools that are to be supported by the underspent growth fund of £397k. Can be used to support schools with TTO liability.	Mala Dadlani	Pending, waiting for finalised figures from payroll firstly.