

LEWISHAM SCHOOLS FORUM

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 19th January 2023

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

		Attendance				
Primary School Headteachers		28/ 06	20/ 10	15/ 12	19/ 01	Date of Appointment
Jacqueline Noakes	John Ball	✓	✓	✕		Dec 2021
Manda George	Torridon Primary	✓	✓	✓	✓	Jan 2022
Sharon Lynch	St William of York	✓	✓	✓	✓	Jan 2022
Julie Loffstadt	Kilmorie	✓	✕	✓	✓	Jan 2022
Matthew Ringham	Our Lady & St Philip Neri	a	✓	✓	✓	Jan 2022
David Lucas	Trinity	✓	✓	✓	✓	Jan 2021
Maxine Osbaldeston	Launcelot	✓	✓	✓	✓	Jan 2021
Nursery School Headteacher						
Cathryn Arnold-Kinsey	Clyde Nursery	✓	a	a	✓	Jan 2022
Secondary School Headteachers						
Naill Hand	Prendergast Ladywell	✓	✓	✓	✓	Oct 2022
Michael Sullivan	Forest Hill		✓	✓	✓	Oct 2022
Special School Headteacher						
Lynne Haines	Greenvale	✓	✓	a	a	Dec 2021
Pupil Referral Unit Headteacher						
Heather Johnston	Abbey Manor	✓	✓	✓	✓	Jan 2023
Primary School Governors						
Daniel Meyer	St Bartholomews	✓	✓	✓	✓	Jan 2022
Peter Fidel	Eliot Bank and Gordonbrock Federation	✓	✓	✓	✕	June 2021
Secondary & Special School Governors						
Pat Barber	Bonus Pastor	a	✓	✓	✓	Jan 2022
Andy Rothery	Leathersellers Federation	✓	✓	✓	✓	June 2021
VACANT	SPECIAL SCHOOL					
Academies						
Miz Mann	STEP Academy Trust	✓	✓	a	a	Oct 2021

Ann Butcher	Childeric	✓	a	✓	✓	June 2021
14-19 Consortium Rep						
Gerard Garvey	Lewisham Southwark College	x	x	x	x	June 2022
Early Years – PVI						
VACANT						
Diocesan Authorities						
VACANT	Southwark Diocesan Board of Education (Church of England)					
Yvonne Epale	Education Commission – Catholic Diocese of Southwark	✓	✓	a	✓	May 2021

Observers/Others in attendance		
Strategic Business Partner	Mala Dadlani	
Director of Education Services	Angela Scattergood	
LB Lewisham - Finance	Nick Penny	
LB Lewisham	Ruth Griffiths	
LB Lewisham	Reinhild Onuoha	
Leathersellers Federation	Tony Marnham	
Clerk	Janita Aubun	

1. Apologies and Acceptance of Apologies/ Welcome new members

Apologies accepted from Lynne Haines and Miz Mann. Heather Johnston (PRU representative) renewed term of office.

2. Declaration of Interest

None.

3. Minutes of the Meeting of 15 Dec 2022

Correction required to the name of school for Michael Sullivan – Forest Hill. Clerk will amend.

4. Matters arising

Chair informed forum that Jacqueline Knoakes has resigned from her post of Primary Headteacher representative. Primary Leadership forum to commence process of electing a replacement. Additionally, Lynne Haines will be leaving at the end of the year so new Special School Head representative will be required.

5. Summary of the Schools Funding Settlement 2023/24

Schools Forum were given an overview of the DSG position 2023/24. CSSB remains as at present i.e. till 2023/24 at least. High Needs Block increased – we are working with the DfE over the next year to take part with their Delivering Better Value Initiative – expected to commence Summer 2023. Early Years funding – baseline has increased as a result of the Autumn Statement. Teachers Pay and Pension grant has now been rolled into Early Years. Increase in Supplementary Grant which was already in the DSG - £500K. Increase in hospital funding. So overall increase of circa 10%. Forum informed of net reduction in primary school numbers relative to 2021/22, however a net increase with secondary schools.

Recommendations:-

- Schools Forum asked to note the overall increase in schools funding for **2023/24**.
- Schools Forum was asked to note the reduction in CSSB of £0.4m.
- Schools' forum to note the increase in High Needs funding as stated and to continue to note the requirement on the LA (in partnership with their schools forum) to set a balanced budget position.
- Schools forum to note the increase in Early Years funding but to note that the new settlement whilst welcomed as additional funding, will continue to place pressure on EY providers, as the increase rectifies some of the previous underfunding.
- Schools Forum further asked to note and agree the distribution of funding for the 3 & 4 year old and 2 year old hourly rates in line with the current method.
- Schools Forum was asked to agree the distribution of the funding on "Quality based factor linked to teachers". Following the data collection exercise, a paper is to be brought to forum in June confirming the allocation.

Decision:-

- All recommendations noted and agreed.

6. Dedicated Schools Grant 2023/24 – Authority Pro-forma Tool – Submission to the Department for Education

Paper presented to Forum informing the funding formula is required to be submitted to the DfE 20th January 2023; the LA will continue to mirror the National Funding Formula.

Forum was informed about the rationale of the per pupil primary formula and Lewisham area cost adjustment. Also, discussion around the low level of free school meals take up in Lewisham primary schools, therefore schools are losing funding including pupil premium. Secondary schools are in a better position. Nursery school pupils are not entitled to FSM. However, the primary school figures are used as proxy for EY funding.

Information sharing regarding IDACI, primary and secondary mobility appearing low, split sites etc – this was to highlight what dictates school funding. Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) is now 0.5%.

As we move to Hard Formula, there is a risk for those schools on MFG as that is effectively funding schools are receiving which is over the NFF – so schools need to start planning for that funding to at some point either fall out or get levelled out with the NFF – i.e. cash impact.

PFI factor

Schools forum was provided with an update following a meeting with secondary heads (that have PFI schools). The meeting did not deliver a consensus for change. SF deliberated the PFI factor further, it was agreed a further meeting would take place to consider opportunity for review. However, the APT will be at present submitted as per the existing formula.

Recommendations:-

- Forum to approve the APT for submission to the DfE as presented, that allows for the application of National Funding Formula, £300,000 for the growth fund and the remaining balance (up to 0.5% of Schools Block funding) to be transferred to High Needs Block.
- PFI factor to be revisited, with potentially an extraordinary meeting if required.
- TOFTUA – formally agree the 2023/24 per pupil values for consideration as part of the de-delegation and also direct charging to academy and special schools.

Decisions:-

- APT approved for submission to DfE as presented
- Review of PFI factor -Schools Forum approval required to for Head teachers with PFI to revisit the PFI factor - an extraordinary meeting of the forum may be required. Schools forum agreed (Yes-13). Against 0, Abstention 0.
- TOFTUA – agreed.

7. Any Other Business

None

Future Meetings

Schools Forum dates 2023/24 will be emailed to members tomorrow.

All Schools Forum meetings continue to be held between 16:30-18:30 and remain virtual, unless advised otherwise.

High Needs Sub Group meeting dates to be confirmed.

Schools Forum Action Summary

Item	Action to be taken	Officer(s) responsible	Outcome/Current position
8 – AOB Schools forum 15 December 2022	Cost of living crisis - to lobby at National Level. Letter currently being written and will be presented to the forum for approval.	All headteachers	Pending
5 – Summary of the Schools Funding Settlement 2023/24, Schools Forum 19 January 2023	Following the data collection exercise, a paper is to be brought to forum in June confirming the allocation. (To agree the distribution of the funding on ‘quality based factor linked to teachers’).	Mala Dadlani	For June 2023 forum