

NORTH YORKSHIRE SCHOOLS FORUM

Date of meeting:	Thursday 16 May 2024 (via Teams)
Title of report:	Minutes of the North Yorkshire Schools Forum
Type of report:	For information only
Executive summary: Including reason for submission	The minutes of the previous meeting of the North Yorkshire Schools Forum are presented for approval.
Budget / Risk implications:	N/A
Recommendations:	The minutes are approved as an accurate record.
Voting requirements:	N/A
Appendices: To be attached	N/A
Report originator and contact details:	Marion Sadler – Clerk to the Schools Forum Tel: 01609 532234 E-mail: marion.sadler@northyorks.gov.uk
Presenting officer: If not the originator	N/A

PRESENT:

Chair:	Ian Yapp
Primary Headteachers:	Helen Thompson, Karen O'Donnell
Secondary Headteachers:	Nick Hinchliffe, Julia Polley
Nursery Headteacher:	
Special Headteacher:	Sarah Edwards
Pupil Referral Service:	
Academies:	Michelle Hockham, Alison Kaye, Louise Sager, Helen Williams, Samantha Williams, Josh Greaves, Kevin Matchett, Clare Hurworth, Rebecca Broadbent, Clare Dowson, Jon Watson, Simon Smith, Kerry Young, David Barber
Governors:	Corinne Cross, Ray Wells

Early Years Providers:	Charlotte Hope-Harrison
16-19 Providers:	Danny Metters
Diocesan Representatives:	Andrew Smith
Trade Unions:	Anne Swift, Sarah Carter
Observers:	Cllr Annabel Wilkinson, Cllr Janet Sanderson, Lisa Lewis (National SEND Movement)
In Attendance:	Stuart Carlton, Amanda Newbold, Howard Emmett, Sally Dunn, Jon Holden, Chris Reynolds, Mandy Lambert (LSO Minute-Taker), Deborah Wilbor (LSO), Laura Sandilands (LSO)
Apologies:	Emma Lambden, Kathryn Firth, Rob Campbell

1204: WELCOME

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1205: MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Circulated: A list of the current membership:

The current vacancies were outlined, Primary LA (3), PRS LA (1). Quorum is 40% of members.

1206: MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: With the following amendments, that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 14 March 2024 be agreed as an accurate record.

1207: MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

1208: NOTIFICATION OF ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

There was no other urgent business to note.

1209: HIGH NEEDS/DBV UPDATE

CONSIDERED: A report outlining the deficit management approach and mitigating actions for the high needs Block budget.

NOTED: The accumulated deficit as at 31 March 2024 of c.£13m and a projected in-year deficit in 2024-25 of c.£6m which would result in a projected accumulated deficit as at 31 March 2025 of £19.0m. Unmitigated forecasts indicate this will rise to c.£94m by 31 March 2028. The following information was shared:

- £20.5m SEND capital programme aiming to establish up to 350 additional specialist places was outlined.
- DBV in SEND Programme – identified opportunities. There were three specific workstreams.
- Other mitigation opportunities with four workstreams.

As a Local Authority lobbying of the DfE continues regarding the funding settlement, national funding and the distribution of the funding and how much North Yorkshire gets as a whole.

(Q) Has the area SEND review been published.

(A) The SEND review has not yet been published – timelines are awaited.

(Q) Is there any more information around the mitigations and how the cost containment will be achieved.

(A) There is currently nothing to share at the present time but the LA will keep Schools Forum informed of future developments.

(Q) Will North Yorkshire Council subsidise the block funding for High Needs due to the lack of funding.

(A) The LA continues to lobby Government, but the LA is prohibited from putting additional funding into High Needs. The accumulated deficit is tracked, and a reserve set aside to meet the deficit (should the statutory override cease) but cannot be used to pay off the deficit.

(Q) Has Schools Forum lobbied Government.

(A) The Chair would be happy to undertake this task.

AGREED:

- To note the contents of the report.
- To write to Government regarding the funding.

1210: SCHOOLS CAPITAL PROGRAMME

CONSIDERED: A draft report outlining the proposed Schools Capital Programme which will be submitted to Executive.

NOTED: In announcements made in March 2024 the DfE allocated Schools Condition funding of £5,883,316 to North Yorkshire Council for 2024/25. This report sets out how we intend to allocate that funding and explains the rationale behind each element of the programme.

(Q) Can the LA fund the Capital Programme.

(A) The LA is not precluded from doing this but there is not enough funding to do so. The LA is trying to balance a number of priorities across the board.

(Q) Recognising the reduction in the capital amount due to schools converting to academy trusts. The state of the capital estate is an issue. The LA is having to pick up things for conversion to get it across the line. Is this an issue going forward and does the funding go out of the core budget or a contingency.

(A) This will be a problem due to backlog of work required. We do endeavour to ensure that the funding is used for priority issues.

AGREED: To note the report.

1211: SCHEME FOR FINANCING SCHOOLS

CONSIDERED: A report providing an update and requesting approval from the Schools Forum for the amendment of the North Yorkshire Council Scheme for Financing Schools.

AGREED:

- (a) To note the DfE changes to the statutory guidance on Schemes for Financing local authority-maintained schools.**
- (b) To approve an amendment to the North Yorkshire Council Scheme for financing Schools to reflect the latest DfE statutory guidance.**

1212: EARLY YEARS / WRAPAROUND CHILDCARE

NOTED: As of the end of April there are 2663 validated codes. There have been no families saying they could not get a place. Further surveys have been issued around understanding the demand. The roll out continues through events.

Schools need to be able to childcare from 8.00 am to 6.00 pm. From September 2026 this needs to be self-sustaining and viable. Surveys have been sent out. Data analysis has been undertaken with a number of themes around rurality, 30% of schools already do 8.00 am – 6.00 pm with some other options available. Access for children with SEND is being considered. Grant funding is being received for the expansion of wraparound provision.

1213 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no further business.

1214: FUTURE MEETINGS

Thursday 19 September 2024

Thursday 21 November 2024

Thursday 12 December 2024 (provisional)

DRAFT