

NORTH YORKSHIRE SCHOOLS FORUM

Date of meeting:	Thursday 16 December 2021 (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:	Jillian Baker, Karen O'Donnell, Nick Styles
Secondary Headteachers:	Julia Polley
Nursery Headteacher:	
Special Headteacher:	
Pupil Referral Service:	
Academies:	Helen Channing, Michelle Hockham, Jane Turner, Josh Greaves, Andrew Krlie
Governors:	Corinne Cross
Early Years Providers:	Charlotte Hope-Harrison
16-19 Providers:	

Diocesan Representatives:	
Trade Unions:	
Observers:	Cllr. Patrick Mulligan, Anne Swift, Helen Dalby
In Attendance:	Howard Emmett, Amanda Newbold, Martin Surtees, Mandy Lambert (LSO Minute Taker), Deborah Wilbor (LSO)
Apologies:	Brian Crosby, Helen Williams, Andrew Smith, Chris Head, Chris Parkhouse, Nick Hinchliffe, Fiona Beetles, Cllr J Sanderson, Helen Flynn, Rob Campbell, Kath Jordan, Stuart Carlton, Michael Pettavel

1038: WELCOME

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1039: MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Circulated: A list of the current membership:

Current vacancies were outlined, 3 x primary LA, 1 x secondary LA, 1 x PRS LA, 1 x academy, 1 x Special School LA. Total membership 36 (reviewed 2019) – Quorum is 12.

NOTED: That the meeting was quorate for the decisions required to be taken.

1040: MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 11 November 2021 be agreed as an accurate record.

1041: MATTERS ARISING

NOTED: There were no matters arising.

1042: NOTIFICATION OF ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

There was no notification of any other urgent business.

1043: 2022-23 SCHOOL FUNDING DE-DELEGATION

CONSIDERED: A report detailing the Local Authority proposals for de-delegation in 2022-23. This report provides an overview of the use of de-delegated funding in relation to Schools in Financial Difficulty and Unreasonable School Expenditure Contingencies along with a summary of the utilisation of the de-delegated funding over recent financial years.

NOTED: That de-delegation only applies to LA maintained schools (primary and secondary). The three elements are: SIFD; Schools Causing Concern; Redundancy Support costs Contribution.

NOTED:

- (i) Unspent funds would be held in reserve to smooth things out over the years. The LA is comfortable that the de-delegation would remain at the 2021-22 level.
- (ii) The change for redundancy could be changed back again should it be necessary.

AGREED:

(a) Schools in Financial Difficulty – Option A

- (i) To continue de-delegation
- (ii) The level of de-delegation should be retaining at 2021-22 levels

- LA primary – For 4; Against 0; Abstain 0;
- LA secondary – For 1; Against 0; Abstain 0.

(b) Unreasonable School Expenditure – Option A

- (i) To continue de-delegation
- (ii) The level of de-delegation should be retained at 2021-22 levels

- LA primary – For 4; Against 0; Abstain 0;
- LA secondary – For 1; Against 0; Abstain 0

1044: 2022-23 SCHOOL FUNDING – NEW DE-DELEGATION – SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

CONSIDERED: A report detailing the recent DfE consultation “Reforming how local authorities” school improvement functions are funded” which proposes a reduction and subsequent removal of the School Improvement Monitoring and Brokering Grant with effect from April 2022 by 50% and 100% by April 2023.

This report provides LA proposals requesting an “in principle” decision for the de-delegation of funding from school budgets in the 2022/23 financial year to fund statutory services for the provision of school improvement core activities to maintained schools. The core activities of the fund were outlined along with the North Yorkshire LA consultation response and North Yorkshire context. There had been no outcome of the consultation from the DfE as of today.

NOTED:

- (i) A decision by the DfE would be known late December / early January.
- (ii) The concern about the consultation and methodology had been noted and communicated to the DfE.
- (iii) The LA does have plans for investment in School Improvement over the next two years (over and above either DfE grant funding and/or de-delegated funding). Any reduction in funding would require the LA to review the service offer.

PROPOSAL: To support de-delegation at a flat rate lump sum of £1,712 per school in 2022-23, but to review methodology for subsequent year if the de-delegation is approved.

- LA maintained primary: For 1; Against 1; Abstain 2
- LA maintained secondary: For 0; Against 0; Abstain 1

NOTED: That there was concern from some schools that there is no other option to vote against. Any clarity going forward would be shared with Schools Forum via email.

1045: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No other business had been raised.

1046: FUTURE MEETINGS

Thursday 20 January 2022 (Virtual)

Thursday 17 March 2022

Thursday 19 May 2022

Thursday 22 September 2022

Thursday 17 November 2022

Thursday 15 December 2022 – if required