

NORTH YORKSHIRE SCHOOLS FORUM

Date of meeting:	Thursday 23 January 2020 (County Hall)
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, Nick Styles, Karen O'Donnell, Fiona Beetles
Secondary Headteachers:	Nick Hinchliffe, Mark McCandless, Jacky Staniforth (deputy for Kath Jordan)
Nursery Headteacher:	Michael Pettaval
Special Headteacher:	Ann-Marie Ellis (deputy for Jonathan Tearle)
Pupil Referral Service:	
Academies:	Helen Flynn, Helen Channing, David Read, Andrew Krlic, Michelle Hockham
Governors:	
Early Years Providers:	
16-19 Providers:	
Diocesan Representatives:	Andrew Smith
Trade Unions:	Chris Head
Observers:	
In Attendance:	Howard Emmett, Jane Le Sage, Mandy Lambert (Clerk)
Apologies:	Stuart Carlton, Judith Kirk, Julia Polley, Rob Campbell, Damien Smith, Jonathan Tearle (deputy Ann-Marie Ellis), Kath Jordan (deputy Jacky Staniforth)

899: WELCOME

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and informed the group of the current membership situation.

900: MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Current vacancies were outlined, 4 x primary, 1 x PRS Academy, 1 x PRS LA, 5 x academy, 1 x Unison Rep, 1 x 16-19 Providers, 1 x early years / childcare.

901: MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2019 be agreed as an accurate record.

902: MATTERS ARISING

NOTED: CH asked that the letter sent to MPs be distributed to the Teachers' Consultative Panel, the next Panel meeting is on 3 March 2020. It was noted that the

letter had now been distributed to MPs so it was agreed that it could be shared with PAFA members.

903: NOTIFICATION OF ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

There was no notification of any other urgent business.

904: OUTCOME OF POLL ON SCHOOLS FORUM LOCATIONS

NOTED: A doodle-poll had been undertaken on whether Schools Forum should be held at various locations around the County or remain at County Hall for all meetings. The result was: To remain at County Hall (4) – To take Schools Forum around the County (11).

AGREED: That the meetings would be held in various locations around the County including 4 in localities and 1 at County Hall, Northallerton. The 'reserve' meeting in December would be held at County Hall Northallerton if required.

905: OVERALL DSG AND THE SCHOOLS BLOCK 2020-21 / UPDATE ON SCHOOLS FUNDING

NOTED: Following the autumn consultation with schools on MFG, local gains cap, and the block transfer, discussion took place at September and November meetings. Six options were considered during the consultation. Schools Forum preferred Option 1 a 0% transfer 1.37% MFG and 100% gains cap. An additional high needs allocation for 2020 / 21 had been received but despite this there would be an in-year short fall. The LA submitted a disapplication request to the Secretary of State to transfer 0.5% of Schools Block to High Needs Block. This request had not been supported by DfE. In the absence of further funding clarity, the LA would be required to identify further measures to contain and recover a deficit funding position, in addition to implementation of the SEND Strategic Plan.

The deadline for submission of the APT return was 21 January but the total quantum of schools block funding results in non-applied funds after allocation of funding in line with NFF principles and values. This is principally to do with a significant drop in attainment data at primary school level. The EYFS was introduced in 2012-13 and had now dropped out of the data. The other reason related to growth figures. The difference between the original modelling and actual allocations was set out in the presentation and explained. DfE are aware of the issue and note that this is affecting a number of northern local authorities. They are keen that the funding is allocated and request LAs to consider amending formula factor values to achieve this.

RECOMMENDED: That North Yorkshire increases the factor value prior attainment for primaries up to the 2019-20 total quantum. There is still a gap of c£1.6m which would need to be allocated. A number of options had been modelled at short notice:

- The LA had discounted retaining higher growth funding values as there was a desire to ensure schools received the maximum benefit of available funding;
- Low prior attainment has been restored to 2019-20 total quantum for primary schools as per DfE steer

Options for addressing the remaining balance were outlined as below:

Option A - increase lump sum values

Option B - increase AWPU

Option C - increase all factor values.

AGREED: That Option A increase lump sum values be agreed. (13 votes to 0)

CONSIDERED: A report setting out the overall DSG allocation and planned expenditure on the Schools Block Budget in 2020-21 following the endorsement of proposals regarding its distribution at the Schools Forum meeting in November 2019 and formal agreement by the Council's Executive in January 2020. Planned expenditure for the High Needs and Early Years Blocks is set out in separate reports to the meeting.

906: VERBAL REPORT ON EMS

NOTED: That since the last meeting further work had been undertaken around the new model of EMS and funding arrangements. Nine applications for the first round had been received. There were ongoing discussions with four schools who did not submit before the deadline. The recommendation was that the nine would be taken through to the new model of EMS. The Lead Members for Schools and Children's Services would be asked for final approval to undertake a final consultation process. The nine schools would be informed on 6 February 2020 and would talk through the next steps around the detail of their bids. Public consultation would start in February 2020. Locality meetings would be undertaken for these groups to ensure that all the relevant detail is discussed. This would then go back through the democratic process followed by another consultation with a final decision in early August. Schools should be able to start to admit pupils in January 2021. The decommissioning arrangements were also outlined and it was noted that any vacancies in the central restructure would be brought to the attention of the maintained EMS staff. The restructure has been finalised with around 25 vacancies.

NOTED:

- (i) HF asked to confirm that the academy staff would not be offered any vacancies within the restructure. This was confirmed.
- (ii) HF asked about the quality assurance of the proposed EMS. An LA monitoring process is planned and will be put in place.
- (iii) CH had written to the LA regarding concerns about the consultation and there were significant concerns about the time that colleagues had got to transfer data as EMS close along with permanently excluded children.
- (iv) MP asked whether there was any link between the schools opening EMS and those that are closing their provision. School consultations would bring this out.

907: EARLY YEARS FUNDING UPDATE

CONSIDERED: The report considers the following areas:

- (i) An update on the 2020 / 21 Early Years DSG Allocation and requests approval of the associated planned expenditure.
- (ii) The results and feedback on the recent consultation on the funding rates to be paid to early years' providers for the funded early education entitlement for 3 & 4 year olds for the 2020 / 21 financial year.
- (iii) An update on the review of the early years' sparsity funding supplement.
- (iv) An update on the latest position with regard to the supplementary funding provided for Maintained Nursery Schools.
- (v) A proposal to review of the level of the early years DSG reserve.

AGREED:

- (i) To note the 2020 / 21 Early Years DSG allocation and to approve the associated planned expenditure.

- (ii) To support the implementation of Option 1 in respect of the consultation on the level of the provider base funding rate for the 2020 / 21 financial year.
- (iii) To note the proposed review of the Sparsity Funding supplement with the implementation of any changes in the 2021/ 22 financial year.
- (iv) To note the continuation of the supplementary funding arrangement for maintained stage, in relation to the position beyond this point.
- (v) To note the proposed review of the level of the Early Years DSG Reserve at the end of the 2019 / 20 financial year.

908: MFG FOR SPECIAL SCHOOLS 2020-21

CONSIDERED: A report setting out the outcome of the recent technical consultation on the Minimum Funding Guarantee for special schools in the North Yorkshire Local Authority in 2020-21.

AGREED: That the Schools Forum supports the recommendation to implement Option B (+4%) for setting the Minimum Funding Guarantee for special schools

909: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

UPDATE ON GOVERNMENT'S CONSULTATION ON THE METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDING

NOTED: The DfE has acknowledged concerns regarding small rural schools.

UPDATE ON GOVERNMENT'S CONSULTATION ON EXTENDING RISK PROTECTION ARRANGEMENTS TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES MAINTAINED SCHOOLS

Further detail would be brought to the next Schools Forum meeting.

NOTED: The Secretary of State has announced proposals to increase teachers' starting pay.

910: FUTURE MEETINGS

Thursday 12 March 2020 – Selby

Thursday 21 May 2020 – Scarborough

Thursday 17 September 2020 – Richmondshire

Thursday 12 November 2020 – Harrogate

Thursday 10 December 2020 – County Hall (if required)