

CP

CP informed members that Lisa Taylor will be standing down from Forum and the vacancy will be advertised.

Actions from minutes (7th December)

Item 3 CP confirmed that a system to notify members 90 days in advance of their membership coming to an end is now in place.

Item 4 ML confirmed that the Cabinet report relating to Council Plan and Budget has been circulated.

Item 7 ML confirmed that the Headroom Sub Group has been formed. (on agenda)

Item 8 ML confirmed that a meeting to discuss Funding Following students has taken place (on agenda).

Item 9 CP circulated a briefing note giving details of all Forum Sub Groups, terms of reference and membership. Colleagues discussed communication with Governing Bodies. CP to talk to Governors and facilitate communication.

DB gave apologies on behalf of NT officers for the lateness of briefings being uploaded to the Schools Forum website due to the late notification from the DfE of the DSG settlement.

4. Early Years Funding 2017/18 Final Decisions

Graham Cowie talked through the briefing outlining the current position of the Early Years Block 2016/17 and the allocation of funding for the 2017/18 Early Years Block

The table below sets out the Early Years Block allocations to North Tyneside under the new Early Years National Funding Formula

	DSG - Early years Block 2017/18 (£m)
2 Year Old Offer	1.89
Universal 3 and 4 year old entitlement funding	7.91
Additional 3 & 4 year old funding for working parents	1.76
Maintained nursery school supplementary funding	0.02
Disability Access Fund	0.04
Early Years Pupil Premium	0.14
Total Early Years	11.76

Schools Forum approved the 2017/18 North Tyneside Funding Formula for early years funding, at their December 2016 meeting. This formula sets out how the Early Years Block will be allocated during the forthcoming financial year. As discussed at the December Schools Forum, the Maintained Nursery School allocation has been set at £17,638.

2 Year Old Base Rate	£5.20 per hour	
3 and 4 Year Old Hourly Base Rate	£4.34 per hour	
3 and 4 Year Old Hourly Deprivation Supplement	Quartile 1	£0.12 per hour
	Quartile 2	£0.06 per hour
Additional Payment to Maintained Nursery School	£17,638	

Questions

Colleagues asked if there is an indication of how many schools will be offering the additional hours and what will the implications this will have on budgets.

GC replied that numbers are not known as yet. Work is still ongoing with Governors to determine which schools will offer the additional hours.

	<p>Recommendations Forum were asked to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the provisional Early Years Block Allocation for 2017/18 Agreed 2. Confirm the North Tyneside Early Years funding formula (previously discussed) and approved at the December Meeting Agreed <p>DB thanked GC for his attendance and briefing note.</p>	
5.	<p>High Needs Funding 2017/2018 Final Decisions ML talked through a briefing note provided on behalf of the SEND Working Group as requested by Forum to make specific recommendations to address funding pressures in 2017-18. The paper reflects the recent discussions at the SEND Working Group, sets out the forecast outturn for the High Needs Block in 2016-17 and highlights emerging issues for 2017-18.</p> <p>Questions Colleagues asked how the surplus amount has increased. ML replied that this is linked to the forecast level of clawback and a reduced forecast level of call on top up. Also as a result of the work that has been undertaken during the last two years. It was confirmed that as part of the Government's realignment exercise this has seen a shift in resources to the High Needs Block, to match the decisions previously taken at Forum. Colleagues noted that we need to be mindful that places have been increased in Special Schools. Colleagues discussed and reaffirmed the decision to pay the 2015/16 residual deficit on the High Needs Block back over two years. ML confirmed that any surplus not used can be moved back into main fund.</p> <p>Recommendations Forum were asked to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the estimated residual balance at the end of the respective financial years Agreed 2. Agree the transfer of funds to the High Needs Block from the Schools Block for the residual High Needs deficit balance. Agreed 3. Continue to review of all SEND High Needs provision in 2017-18, including the Funding following arrangements. Agreed 	
6.	<p>Schools Funding 2017/18 including centrally retained and de-delegated items – Final Decisions EA talked through the Briefing note which is in 4 sections, the purpose of which is to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To inform Schools Forum of the 2017/18 Local Government Finance Settlement in respect of the Dedicated Schools Grant 	

2. To determine with Schools Forum the centrally retained budgets for 2017/18

Colleagues asked for clarification of the amount charged for a single national license EA confirmed that this amount is top sliced by the DfE and is non negotiable, however it is more cost efficient for the licenses to be purchased in this way and will be picked up during individual budget monitoring

3. To inform Schools Forum of the draft mainstream formula prior to submission on 20 January 2017 and the movement between funding Blocks, which confirms the High Needs budget for 2017/18.

4. To determine with Schools Forum the de-delegated budgets for 2017/18.

Colleagues noted that the figures given at Forum (7th Dec 17) for schools in financial difficulty, that were taken to area Headteachers for consultation are not the same as the revised figures circulated yesterday making it difficult to vote without the area Headteachers being made aware of the revised figures.

It was agreed that an electronic vote would be taken from members eligible to vote at this meeting.

Recommendations

1. Note the details of the settlement in respect of the Dedicated Schools Grant
Noted
2. Approve the centrally retained items as set out in Section 2
Agreed
3. Confirm the approval of the new ESG arrangements.
Agreed
4. Approve the Block to Block transfers as set out in the Section 3A. This will confirm the High Needs budget for 2017/18.
Agreed
5. Subject to changes arising from Recommendations 2 and 3 above, approve the budget option as set out in Section 3 and agree that school budgets are progressed accordingly to meet EFA 20th January 2017 This vote will be open to School Members plus representatives of the Early Years providers.
Agreed
6. Approve the de-delegated items as set out in Section 4 and Appendix B (below).

Budget to support mainstream maintained schools in financial difficulty to be taken as an electronic vote after those members eligible to vote have re-consulted with their area Headteachers if they wish.

ML to send out an email inviting votes. The deadline for voting will be 4pm Wednesday 18th January 2017.

ML

Narrative	Total de-delegated 2017/18 £	Rate per pupil £	Vote
Budget to support mainstream maintained schools in financial difficulty*	549,354	23.48	Electronic vote deadline 4pm Wednesday 18th Jan 2017
Support for vulnerable Headteachers for those	38,365	1.64	Agreed

incidents where independent support and advice is necessary			
Support for minority ethnic pupils and underachieving groups. (EMTAS) NB: rate per pupil only applies to pupils that meet the EAL threshold	380,132	1,212.00	Agreed
Assessment of Free school meals eligibility.	36,961	1.58	Agreed
The current central scheme to cover staff costs – supply cover. i.e. the maternity/ paternity/ adoption cover scheme, including Union facility time costs and Jury Service.	578,509	24.73	Agreed
Total	1,583,321		

DB thanked EA for the briefing.

**Subsequent to the electronic vote which closed Wednesday 18th Jan 17 results as follows:*

11 against

3 in favour

And 2 abstentions

Therefore the original level of funding will remain for the forthcoming financial year.

Narrative	Total de-delegated 2017/18 £	Rate per pupil £
Budget to support mainstream maintained schools in financial difficulty*	131,491	5.62

7. Stage 2 National Funding Formula consultation

EA talked through the briefing paper which advises Schools Forum of the Stage 2 National Funding Formula and High Needs Funding Reform consultation documents released by the Department of Education and seek views from the Schools Forum as to whether a Forum response is to be made and, if so, how it wishes to proceed.

It was agreed that the existing Funding sub group would follow this up.

David Grigg offered to join the group. Any other members who wish to participate to contact EA.

Outcomes to be on next Forum agenda. Deadline for response is 22nd March 2017.

All

8. Falling Rolls and Headroom Funding 2016-17 allocation process

EA talked through the briefing note which outlined the process of allocation including a flow chart to clarify eligibility.

	<p>Recomendations Forum were asked to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve the process for Falling Rolls funding Agreed 2. Approve the process for Headroom funding Agreed 3. Consider the membership of the Sub-group and invite people to volunteer if applicable Any members wishing to participate in this group to contact EA 	All
9.	<p>Any other business None</p>	
10	<p>Date of next meeting . Wednesday 8th March 2017 12.00 lunch 12.30 start</p>	