



Derby City Council

School Forum
Tuesday 21 January 2020
4.30pm – 7pm
St Giles School, Hampshire Road
Derby DE21 6BT

Present:	Clive Lawrence (Chair) Pauline Anderson, DCC Paula Baines-Chambers, Primary Academy Janet Bowlzer, DCC Finance Nicola Caley, Secondary School rep Jason Coupland, Primary Governor Jane Green, Principal David Hall, Primary Head Karen Hayes, Secondary Head Lisa Hopwell, Business Manager Deirdre Malley, Nursery Head Alison Parkin, DCC Finance Mike Pride, Kingsmead Sheila Rollinson, NASUWT Cllr Evonne Williams, DCC		
Apologies: Andy Smith			
		Who	When
1	Minutes of the previous meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Governor Rep vacancy – AP needs to reconsider the SF membership in the context of the recent academy conversions to ensure a balanced representation on Forum. All changes and vacancies to then be actioned. Proposed changes to come to the next meeting. • Noted Nicola Caley was present at the last meeting • Re: Communication to schools re: outcome of the HN consultation. The consultation has now ended. PA explained there is a now a reference group which has been set up which will look at direction of travel, where we are and why decisions are made to provide an audit trail. • E4E funding request – School Forum has agreed in principle conditions attached regarding the focus on vulnerable groups. Pauline Anderson to contact E4E • The minutes of the meeting of 10 December 2019 were recorded as a true record of the meeting. 	AP	



01/20	Dedicated School Grants 2020-2021 – Proposal items for Re-pooling <ul style="list-style-type: none">• These funds are ring-fenced for maintained schools only, and excludes early years, special and academy schools. This proposal was reported at the School Forum meeting in December 2019 and has been placed on the DCC website for consultation. AP commented that there were no adverse comments from schools to date.• NC raised a concern from her Business Manager as the school pay for their own insurance. AP/NC to have a separate conversation on how DCC insurance compares to their own for value for money. AP made it clear though that we could not have an opt in/ opt out situation and the decision that Schools Forum makes applies to the whole maintained sector.• School Forum is in agreement with the proposals contained in the report.	NC/AP	 2020 Jan DeDelegation.pdf
02/20	Schools Block Transfer <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Report sets out the proposal to transfer 0.5% of the schools block of DSG to the High Needs Block in 20/21. (£947,000), which had previously been agreed in principle with the School Forum.• Consultation with all schools closed on 10 Jan 2020 and no objections were received.• £500,000 of 0.5% to support 2020 21 High Needs budget with the remainder being earmarked for transformational workstreams.• The Strategic Director of Peoples Services to have delegated authority for the signing off of the transformational investment.• JC suggested it would be useful for a report to come to School Forum and this was agreed to be brought as an agenda item to the next meeting.	AP	 2020 Jan Schools Block Transfer.pdf
03/20	Dedicated Schools Grant 2020 – 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 20 21 allocation for DSG is £253.297m and is made up of four blocks of funding, school block, central school services block, high needs and early years block. The Schools Block has the highest amount of £189.40m• Changes to the National funding formulas for schools are: minimum funding levels have been made mandatory, to implement a minimum funding level per pupil of £3,750 for primary and £5,000 for secondary schools.• AP commented due to the implementation of the National Funding Formula rates in the local funding		 Dedicated School Grant 2020-2021.pdf



	<p>formula and due to the significant increase in funding for schools in Derby, Derby will be able to introduce the NFF which is great news.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Also a minimum funding guarantee set at 0.5% (protects per pupil funding), this can be set at the lower levels as no schools in Derby trigger the MFG, which again is good news. • Point 3.5 schools block allocation, growth of £13.8 million, which is great news for Derby schools. • Early Years – the budget proposals for 2020 - 21 propose a 3.5% increase on the base rate within the formula to reflect the cost pressures faced by the sector and will be at an hour rate of £4.38 (increase of 0.15) • CL noted the 4% inflationary increase in special school banding • Clive commented on the HNB and the increasing OOA spend. PA commented that there was work going ahead with adult commissioning around plans and placement costs in Derby and investing in supporting placement costs in mainstream schools, also looking at relationships with parents. There is also audit work being undertaken around tribunals. MP felt it would be a good idea to involve Phil Harrison, chair of SEND Board. It was noted there is a long way to go with Exclusions but work is being carried out. • PA suggested external viewpoints from another City maybe a good idea • EW thanked all school forum members for their contributions for lobbying for MP's etc • Point 3.11 AP commented on Dedicated School grant reserve balances which are depleting and concerns there are no DSG reserves. • All recommendations from 2.1 – 2.6 were noted by the School Forum • AP informed SF that budgets will be put on to the website once they have been approved by cabinet on 12 Feb 2020, however these will be issued provisionally to schools, subject to cabinet approval. 	AP	
04/20	<p>Quarter 3 forecast of centrally held budgets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This report was for Schools Forum to note the forecast outturn position for 19-20, the current forecast is a £2.6m overspend, and to note the implications for the 2019-20 DSG reserve and 20-21 budget. • This was noted by all members of the school forum. 		 2020 Jan DSG Qtr 3 forecast outturn.pdf



05/20	Growth Fund <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CL queried how this works for Special Schools especially in light of St. Giles expanding in year and after schools budgets are confirmed. AP explained that special school budgets are calculated differently to that of schools. School budgets are calculated from a census count the autumn before a financial year starts and the Growth fund is a mechanism to deal with new classes post census. Special School budgets do not operate on a lagged basis, element 3 funding follows a child in a real time manner. Place numbers are currently being confirmed.• Schools funding is based on a lagged system taken from the pupil count in October, and can be further delayed until the following Sept and where pupil numbers rise significantly in the autumn term, the school will not receive funding until the following financial year. The Growth Fund Criteria has been reviewed to include pre opening and dis-economies of scale criteria.• New school opening arrangements – primary schools receive £75,000 and secondary £100,000 prior to the opening of the school.• School Forum voted on the recommendations below:-<ul style="list-style-type: none">- To approve the value of the Growth Fund of £500,000 – all in favour- To agree the criteria for allocation as details within this report – all in favour		 2020 Jan Growth Fund.pdf
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Date and time of next meeting: Tuesday 5 May, 2020, 4.30pm start, St Giles School.
This meeting with focus on the SEND recovery plan behaviour strategies.