

## Minutes of Schools' Forum – 2 October 2013

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### Present:

#### Members

Colin Reid (St Hild's) - Chair  
 Julie Deville (Eldon Grove)  
 Peter Cornforth (Fens)  
 Mark Tilling (High Tunstall)  
 Lynne Pawley (Rossmere)  
 Andrew Jordon (Northern Education)  
 Amanda Baines (Diocese of Durham and Newcastle)  
 Anne Malcolm (Manor)  
 Andy Brown (West View)  
 Mark Atkinson (Throston)  
 Sue Sharpe (Golden Flatts)  
 Michael Lee (English Martyrs)  
 Jan Brough (Ward Jackson)  
 Marian Fairley (Lynnfield Primary)  
 John Hardy (St John Vianney)

#### Local Authority Officers

Dean Jackson (Child & Adult Services)  
 David Ward (Children's Finance)  
 Sandra Shears (Children's Finance)

### 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Maria Mekins (English Martyrs).

### 2. Purpose of meeting

CR provided a re-cap following the meeting of 25 September 2013.

DJ noted that the meeting has been called, as there were a number of concerns following the last meeting from a number of people. Concerns highlighted:

- a number of people felt there was a second proposal on the table, setting deprivation factor at 12 to 15%, as well as the proposal that was voted upon.
- Eligibility to vote, in particular the secondary representative's substitute,, and who is the nominated substitute for secondary schools.

DJ noted that the forum is an advisory panel for the local authority, and if a decision on the formula could not be reached then this would have to go to Children's Services Committee.

ML noted that he expressed concerns, as Forum need to ensure that there is consistency in voting members. Maria Mekins submitted apologies for meeting scheduled on 11 September 2013, and asked if she could send a named substitute; however, she was informed that there was insufficient time to have a nominated person in place. A secondary 'substitute' had attended and voted but was not the named substitute as one had not been agreed by secondary schools.

DJ noted that there are still anomalies around substitutes, and noted that substitutes do have voting rights as long as the substitute is a constitutionally agreed substitute. DJ noted that they had referred to the Schools Forum Regulations of 2012, which states that a substitute has voting rights, and would be expected to be involved in discussions

and feed back to the group they are representing.

### **3. School Funding Formula**

DJ noted that there were two proposals on the table, however, only one was voted on. Clarification from Forum is needed on what proposal they should have voted on.

There was a proposal of looking at between 12% and 15%, however, no discussion or vote was taken on this. The previous meetings were referred to and it was confirmed that this was proposed and seconded, however, not voted upon.

At the previous meeting it was confirmed that both the lump sum would be £175,000 and ratio would remain the same.

Four models were provided for Forum to look at, and also statistical and neighbouring data was provided. Discussions took place at the previous meeting regarding Middlesbrough, as they used 15% as deprivation, and comparisons were made with their data.

Forum members have to discuss with their colleagues what was discussed at the previous meeting, then consultation will need to take place with all schools. Finance would arrange the consultation process.

Formal consultation will need to take place before the next Schools' Forum meeting on 23 October 2013. Forum need to arrive at a consensus of what is being consulted on today.

JDV proposed that consultation take place on between 12% to 15%, and this was seconded by MT. This should then give a clear steer as to what colleagues want.

The consultation would affirm that the lump sum be set at £175,000 and the ratio remain at 1:1.26. After discussion it was agreed that four models would be consulted on, 12%, 13%, 14% and 15%. Consultation materials have to be returned prior to the meeting on 16 October 2013, as this information will be used to assist Forum into agreeing the percentage of deprivation.

There will be one return per school and it is the Headteacher's responsibility to discuss with Chair of governors.

Information to be included in the consultation:

Reminder to consult with Chair of Governors  
Fact sheet

Contact numbers for David Ward and Sandra Shears.

Noted that there will be an additional column added, which will give the financial loss. The sheets will be anonymised.

Consult on 4 models, all using the highest lump sum, and ratio 1:1.26. ask each school to make decision.

### **4. Membership of Forum**

Forum confirmed their membership:

Colin Reid, Anne Malcolm, Mark Tilling - Secondary School Representatives  
Andrew Jordon - Academies  
Michael Lee – Diocesan Representative  
Peter Cornforth – Large sized primary schools >350+  
Lynne Pawley – Middle sized primary schools - 250-349 pupils  
Sue Sharpe – Small schools <249 pupils – one form entry  
Jan Brough – Small deprived schools with high mobility  
John Hardy – VA Primary Schools  
Amanda Baines – Diocese  
Julie Deville – Academies  
Marian Fairley – Multi ethnic mobility deprived  
Andy Brown – larger deprived schools  
Mark Atkinson – governors (elected by governors support) - primary  
Maria Mekins – elected by secondary governors  
Zoe Westley – PRU  
Danielle – ~~Local Authority Representative~~ Early Years Representative  
Chris Hargreaves – Trade Unions

Agreed that members are representing groups then school names should be taken off the name plates.

Noted that the new members of Forum will need to decide who is attending to represent Governors. Further clarification may need to be sought from Ann Turner.

#### Substitutes

Alison Darby – Sue Sharpe  
Karl Telfer – Special Schools Primary  
Julie Thomas – Andy Brown  
Jo Wilson – Marian Fairley  
Judy Thompson – Academies  
Leanne Yates – Lynne Pawley  
Mandy Hall – Peter Cornforth  
Penny Thompson – sub for Danielle  
Suzie Yeniceri – Pvi  
Mary Frain – John Hardy  
Margaret Hodgson - Jan Brough  
Lee Walker – Mark Atkinson  
Ian Railton – Amanda Baines  
Ann Malcolm – Kevin Malcolm  
Mark Tilling – Ian Ness  
Colin Reid – Emma Espley

Members of the public can attend full Schools Forum meetings, and there is a seating area available for these. Members of the public cannot be present for confidential items; these items will be at the end of the agenda. It was agreed that members of the public do not have a speaking right at meetings, but if they want to comment on anything discussed as a consequence of a meeting then they can put this in writing, and attend the next scheduled full meeting. This was proposed and seconded.

#### **6. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

Date: 16 October 2013

Time: 9.15am for 9.30am start  
Venue: Borough Hall