

London Borough of Lambeth

Schools Forum

Draft minutes of the meeting of the Schools Forum held at, International House, Canterbury Crescent, SW9 7QE on **Tuesday 14th January 2014 at 18.00.**

Present: School Members

Headteachers

James Robinson (JR) (Chair)
Alexandra Hardy (AH)
Rachel Hedley (RH)
Richard Leonard (RL)

Immanuel & St Andrew's
Henry Cavendish
Maytree
Park Campus & Kennington Park to Bridge
School

Governors

Robert Moreland (RM)
~~Jeremy Baker (JB)~~
Cathy Harvey (CH)

Archbishop Tenison
~~Rosendale~~
Dunraven Academy

Non School Members

None

Cabinet Member

None

Officers

Cathy Twist (CT)

Delivery Director - Education, Learning & Skills

Christina Thompson (CAT)
Nilesh Jethwa (NJ)
Nicola Drito-Andi (NDA)
Charlene Whyte (CW)
Stuart Dixon (SD)
Peter Dawes (PD)

Director of Integrated Support
Business Partner
Schools Accountant
Schools Senior Accountant
Capital Projects Programme Manager
EE&CP Commercial Manager

Observers

Patricia Bennett
Sara Tomlinson
Andrew Tullis
Louise Duthart

Union representative
Union representative
Union representative
City Heights Academy

Minutes: CW

1. Apologies for Absence & Welcome.

Chair welcomed members and noted apologies from the following:

Colin Powell; Jan Stogden; John Wilkinson, Magdalin Babiker-Clancy, Cllr Heywood, Simon Hampson, Richard Thornhill, Matthew Green, Maggie McNeil, Jeremy Baker

2. Draft minutes from Schools Forum meeting held on 14th November 2013.

There were no amendments to the minutes.

Resolved to agree the minutes as true and accurate record

3. Matters Arising

None.

4. Membership

Members agreed to ~~accept~~ ^{accept} the nomination for Eileen Ross as Primary Community Headteacher and Brian Hazell would act as her nominated substitute.

The Forum received a nomination from Sara Tomlinson who has volunteered to be a Community Governor representative from Glenbrook Primary school. Currently Simon Hampson already fills this roll on behalf of Glenbrook Primary school, however as he has been unable to attend for 6 consecutive meetings, Schools Finance will contact Simon to confirm whether he would be interested in continuing with his membership.

Resolved

- *To take nominations from the Head teachers' council after the 24th January 2014 Working Together event.*
- *NDA to contact Simon Hampson to confirm whether he would be interested in continuing with his School membership.*
- *To take nominations from the Early Years sub-group after the 29th January meeting.*

5. Register of Interests and Declaration of New Interests

No new interests were declared. Members were reminded to complete their declaration forms and submit to Schools Finance.

6. PFI Affordability issues

SD and PD gave a presentation which provided an overview on the Private Finance Initiative (PFI) scheme and the corresponding reasons for the PFI affordability gap of approximately £200K pa.

	£m
Average PFI unitary charge	2.65
PFI Credits received from Govt	-1.93
PFI School Governor contribution	<u>-0.52</u>
PFI Affordability gap	0.20

SD summarised that the PFI affordability gap is a result of forecasting economic circumstances 25 years in advance and modeling on that basis. The PFI affordability gap is largely due to interest rates being much lower than predicted; therefore the LA has been unable to generate a sufficient return on investments from the Sinking Fund. Also inflation costs on the school building utilities have been much higher than initially predicted when the 25 year PFI model was created in 2005.

Additionally, to date, the LA has been unable to raise rental income from the Orchard Hill facility which was intended to contribute to the PFI unitary charge.

JR thanked SD & PD for their presentation and stated that it was helpful and transparent.

RL queried whether the PFI affordability gap was currently being funded by centrally retained Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) prior to April 2013. NJ advised that the LA was managing the gap via combination of LA funding streams but on the advice of the DfE and given the change in School Funding Regulations since April 2013 we will be using a PFI formula factor so that no school was disadvantaged via the funding formula and the

associated costs would be transparent for all schools.

JR requested that the PFI unit value be reviewed on an annual basis as all factors are when reviewing the school fair funding formula.

Action

- For NDA to amend 2014-15 PFI factor unit value to £200K.

7. Draft 2014-15 Authority Proforma Tool (APT) (for information)

NJ briefed members of current version of the January Proforma and explained that the changes in funding levels for individual schools were directly linked to the changes in the actual October 2013 pupils numbers in comparison to the estimated October 2013 presented in the previous October Proforma.

NJ highlighted the net increase in pupil numbers; 652 in the primary sector and 252 in the secondary sector.

Action:

- LA to submit the Proforma to the DfE by 21st January and publish final 2014-15 individual school budgets by 28th February 2014.

8. Final 2013-14 Deprivation Pupil Premium Allocation

NJ highlighted the final 2013-14 deprivation pupil premium allocations and indicative 2014-15 allocations based on the January 2013 data.

Noted

9. S251 Budget Statement 2013-14 (for information)

Members were reminded that the S251 budget statement has been published on the Lambeth website here:

<http://www.lambeth.gov.uk/Services/EducationLearning/SchoolsColleges/Section52Budget.htm>

Action:

- Schools Finance to bring a summary of the 2013-14 Growth Fund allocations to the next meeting.
- Schools Finance to bring a summary of the 2013-14 de-delegated Maternity budget allocations to the next meeting.

10. Financial Settlement 2014-15 (for information)

NJ gave an overview of the contents in the meeting papers highlighting the notional blocks of the DSG and the adjustments for 2 year old and Carbon Commitment Reduction (CRC).

Noted

11. Final Early Years Budget 2013-14

Members were reminded that the final Early Years budgets had been amended for participation over the Summer 2013 and Autumn 2013 terms and published online.

Noted

12. AOB

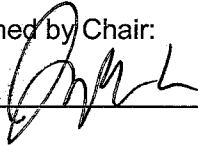
1. Members were reminded that the LA would be requiring signed School Financial Value Standard statements by 31st March 2014
2. JR requested for information on the in-year allocation of funding to schools in relation to the centrally management catering contract rebate.
3. On behalf of the Schools Forum, JR wished CW all the best with her expected date of confinement forecasted for 20th March 2014.

Next meeting date: 20th March 2014

Future meetings:

- 14th May 2014
- 1st July 2014
- 1st October 2014
- 12th November 2014
- 14th January 2015
- 17th March 2015

Signed by Chair:



date: 20.03.14