

Islington Schools Forum meeting

17 May 2018

PRESENT

Forum Members

Barrie O'Shea Chair, Headteacher Duncombe Primary School
Penny Barratt Executive Headteacher, Bridge London Trust
Gladys Berry, Headteacher, Highbury Fields Secondary School,
Jo Dibb, Executive Headteacher, EGA Secondary School,
Maggie Elliott, Governor, COLA Highbury Grove & Montem,
Rob Hull, Chair of Governors, Holloway Secondary School,
Anita Grant, CGC,
Andrew Bosi, Governor, Rotherfield Primary School,

Other attendees

Mark Taylor, Director of Learning and Schools
Debbie Stevenson, Schools Funding Manager,
Tim Partington, Head of Children's Services Finance,
Steve Worth, Finance Consultant
Alan Grant, Clerk.

1.	Apologies for absence Peter Murray, Fiona Godfrey, David Barry, Lisa Horton, Abi Misselbrook-Lovejoy, Nigel Smith, Tanya Watson, Mita Pandya, Emma Gowers.	
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<p>2.</p>	<p>Minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2018</p> <p>1) Accuracy</p> <p>Page 531. Susan Murray attended, not on attendees. It was the Bridge London Trust, not Bridge London Academy Trust.</p> <p>Page 532. Line 7, replace 'that' with 'the'</p> <p>Page 533 Bottom of page, the two points about redundancy should have been coupled together.</p> <p>2) Matters arising.</p> <p>Many were on the agenda for this meeting. AB asked about the process in relation to redundancy expenditure. DS confirmed that Chair of Forum would have oversight of the redundancy expenditure and BO said that there was a process in place and that they were happy about moving forward on that basis.</p> <p>ACTIONS TO BE DONE AT THE END AND SENT AROUND AFTER THE MEETING.</p>	
<p>3.</p>	<p>Schools Forum Constitution</p> <p>SW explained that this item had previously been to Forum and DSG sub group. The main area of discussion centred on substitute members. The complexity of Forum was such that it was in general not appropriate for substitutes to be used. However, there were two areas where they would be allowed; 1) Long term of absence of Forum member, and 2) representative of a smaller organisation/body. It was important that proper briefing took place in all cases after discussion with the Chair.</p>	

<p>4.</p>	<p>17-18 DSG Outturn</p> <p>TP reported that there was a £1.5 million underspend. He referred to appendix B in the paper presented recommending the following proposed use of DSG underspends.</p> <p>Schools Block</p> <p>£293k earmarked for NRC</p> <p>£340k held for growth, falling rolls and High Needs</p> <p>£44k transferred to overspend on High Needs overspend of 45K</p> <p>De-delegated budgets</p> <p>£121k Schools in financial difficulty</p> <p>£34K Priority Support to be rolled forward to 2018/19</p> <p>£25K NQT Release time to be rolled forward to 2018/19</p> <p>£3k TU Facility time to be rolled forward to 2018/19.</p> <p>Early Years Block</p> <p>£478k being used to smooth over funding arrangements for 2 year olds.</p> <p>£298K including £125K for an increase in SEN and other related areas and the rest to be held back as contingency.</p> <p>GB asked about the position in relation to potential growth and falling rolls. DS stated that this was on the agenda for this year. It was not clear what the situation would be further forward.</p> <p>There was a sufficiency of places with a slight over supply in the immediate future. It might then be tricky in the mid term.</p> <p>BO confirmed that there a significant change in this area. It was confirmed that there was only one primary school expanding (Tufnell Park).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AGREED.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Check what schools are affected by this. (Resident PMs)</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>18-19 Central Retention</p> <p>TP stated that this item was for information. And related to central services DSG allocations</p> <p>Appendix A detailed the areas of allocation and the amount identified for each service area.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NOTED</p>	

6. **18-19 Growth/Falling rolls**

Growth

DS presented a paper which identified those schools with proposed permanent expansions.

It was predicted that there would be an overspend in year, hence the need to bring forward the underspend in this year.

DS stated that October census would provide a more accurate picture for many of the schools.

She was concerned that AMSI and COLA HG are unlikely to meet their roll predictions and the Winton bulge class would be funded.

The formula on how this affected each school was provided on page 2 of the paper presented.

THE INITIAL PREDICTIONS WERE NOTED PENDING THE OCTOBER CENSUS.

Falling rolls.

The formula for this was based on DfE requirements and local alterations based on local planning data.

Three schools met the criteria, Copenhagen, New North and COLA Highgate Hill. A fourth school, Hungerford, didn't meet the criteria but funding has been provided based on an exceptional request agreed by the DfE.

PB wanted it noted the huge thanks owed to LBI staff who managed to achieve this as it was a difficult process.

£99k of the £300k funding would remain unallocated.

<p>6.</p>	<p>18-19 Growth/Falling rolls (cont.)</p> <p>There was a query in relation to COLA HH, but as there were significant differences in the opening of this school the EFSA took the view that its falling roll protection could apply in this case.</p> <p>It was noted that there were a number of schools close to meeting the criteria by which they might be entitled to protection which could be a concern going forward.</p> <p>BO noted that a number of schools may need to reduce to 1.5 FE from 2.0 FE. Those schools would need to start planning now for this.</p> <p>GB raised the issue of the difficulties of many families to move out of Islington. It was agreed that the impact of this was not as severe as initially predicted. The arrival of Universal Credit in June might well change this.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>FSM/Universal Credits update</p> <p>DS reported that 2 consultations took place on Early Years and FSM.</p> <p>New guidance came out in February. It was estimated that there would be an additional 50,000 pupils entitled to this nationally.</p> <p>The new scheme appeared to not include benefits in calculating the entitlement, although £7,400 was the earnings limit.</p> <p>There will some protection arrangements on FSM until March 2022, for instance Nursery age pupils would be protected until end of Primary.</p> <p>An annual audit to be done by the LA Finance team.</p> <p>It was confirmed that FSM would apply to all Primary pupils in Islington.</p> <p>Pupil Premium would therefore be protected as a consequence and it was likely this would remain static for the next few years. It was noted that this outcome was slightly better than expected.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NOTED</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">DS to clarify</p>

<p>8.</p>	<p>18-19 Early Years/High Needs</p> <p>Schools able to apply for funding.</p> <p>There was sufficient funding in this year.</p> <p>SEND additional funding had been agreed.</p> <p>ME updated the capital funding update in relation to Early Years where there is currently no funding available. This was a significant issue and it was proposed that Forum write to the DfE to attempt to correct this anomaly.</p> <p>There was a proposal to bid for match funding that applied to Kate Greenaway only.</p>	<p>MT/PK/DS TO DRAFT.</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>A.O.B.</p> <p>Date of next meeting: <u>12 July 2018</u>.</p>	