

**MINUTES OF THE OF THE SCHOOLS' FORUM
HELD ON 27 JUNE 2023
VIRTUAL MS TEAMS MEETING
(10:00am to 12:00pm)**

| | | |
|----------------------|--|--|
| Present: | <p>Maintained Primary Representatives Scott Halliwell (SH (Co-Chair) Julie Phillips (JP) Martin Nicholson (MN) Gill Massar (GM) Richard November (RN) Simon Abeledo (SA) Junaida Bana (JB)</p> <p>Maintained Secondary Representatives Tony Roe (TR) Lisa Keane (LK)</p> <p>Maintained All-through (A/T) Russell Taylor</p> <p>Governor Representatives (1 pri & 1 sec) Vacant Vacant</p> <p>Academy & Free Primary Lisa Shepherd (LS)</p> <p>Academy & Free Secondary Andy Roberts (AR)</p> <p>Academy & Free Schools (A/T) Clare Cross (CC)</p> <p>Academy Special School Representative Roger Leighton (RL)</p> <p>Maintained Special Schools Representative Susan Ball (SB)</p> <p>Maintained PRU Representative Cathy Stygal (CS)</p> <p>Early Years Representative John Trow Smith (JTS)</p> <p>Trade Union Representatives (shared role) Dominic Byrne (DB) John McGill (JMc)</p> <p>Church of England Representative David Huntingford (DH)</p> <p>Catholic Representative Clare Cantle</p> <p>14-19 Representative Yvonne Kelly (YK)</p> | <p>HT, Southwood Primary School HT, Godwin Primary School HT, Grafton Primary School HT, William Bellamy primary School HT, Valence Primary School HT, Rush Green Primary School HT, Furze Infant School</p> <p>HT, Barking Abbey School HT, Eastbury Community School</p> <p>HT, Robert Clack School</p> <p></p> <p>HT, Eastbury Primary School</p> <p>HT, Riverside School</p> <p>HT, Sydney Russell School</p> <p>Chief Executive, Partnership Learning</p> <p>HT, Trinity School</p> <p>HT, Mayesbrook Park School</p> <p>Early Years, Local Authority</p> <p>NUT NASUWT</p> <p>HT, William Ford C of E Junior School</p> <p>HT, All Saints Catholic School</p> <p>Principal, Barking and Dagenham College</p> |
| Also present: | <p>Jane Hargreaves (JH), Commissioning Director – Education; Councillor Elizabeth Kangethe (CK) – Cabinet Member for Educational Attainment and School Improvement; Patricia Harvey (PH) – Senior Professional, High Needs Block; Katherine Heffernan (KH) – Group Manager, Local Authority Finance and Investment; Kofi Adu (KA) – Group Accountant, Local Authority Finance; Gurmit Kaur (GKa) – Group Accountant – Local Authority Finance; Florence Fadahunsi (FF) – Group Accountant, Local</p> | |

Authority Finance; Emmanuel Baidoo – Group Accountant, Local Authority Finance; Amrita Kaur (AK) – Group Accountant, Local Authority Finance; Mairead Pryor (MP) – Warren Junior School; Jamie Bell (JB) – Warren Junior School; Jagrutee Jani (JJ) – The Leys Primary School; Su Joy (SJ) – Village Infant School; Kim Cerri (KC) – Riverside bridge School and Nichola Young (NY) – Local Authority Minute Clerk.

Mr Roger Leighton chaired the meeting, Mr Scott Halliwell to chair the October 2023 meeting.

| 1.0 | <p><u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u></p> <p>Apologies were received from Ronan Fox and John Trow Smith.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|--|-----------------|--|-------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|-------|-------|------------|-------|--|---------|---------|-----|---------------|-------|-------|-----|------------------|--------|--------|---------|-------------------|--------|--------|-------|--------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|--|--|--------|----------------------------|--|--|---------------|------------------|--|--|---------|--------------------------|--|--|--------------|-----------|--|--|--|---------------|--|-----|--|---------------------------|--|-----|--|------------------------|--|--|--------------|--|
| 2.0 | <p><u>DECLARATION OF INTEREST</u></p> <p>None</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.0 | <p><u>MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING</u></p> <p>3.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 17 January 2023 were confirmed as an accurate record.</p> <p>3.2 Update on actions from <u>previous</u> meetings.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="233 753 1451 1014"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="233 753 298 835">No.</th> <th data-bbox="298 753 506 835">Date of Meeting</th> <th data-bbox="506 753 659 835">Item No</th> <th data-bbox="659 753 1297 835">Action</th> <th data-bbox="1297 753 1451 835">Owner</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="233 835 298 1014">1</td> <td data-bbox="298 835 506 1014">17/01/2023</td> <td data-bbox="506 835 659 1014">9.6</td> <td data-bbox="659 835 1297 1014"> <p><u>Audit Summary</u> The audit summary, related to the one-off exceptional funding was circulated as part of the HNWP. Complete</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1297 835 1451 1014">PH</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | | | No. | Date of Meeting | Item No | Action | Owner | 1 | 17/01/2023 | 9.6 | <p><u>Audit Summary</u> The audit summary, related to the one-off exceptional funding was circulated as part of the HNWP. Complete</p> | PH | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No. | Date of Meeting | Item No | Action | Owner | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 17/01/2023 | 9.6 | <p><u>Audit Summary</u> The audit summary, related to the one-off exceptional funding was circulated as part of the HNWP. Complete</p> | PH | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4.0 | <p><u>REPORT FROM THE GROUP ACCOUNTANT – FINANCE</u></p> <p><u>1. DSG Outturn for 2022/23</u></p> <p>1.1 There is a small deficit, but overall, the Dedicated Schools Grant is in a good position with a significant healthy balance.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="443 1205 1229 1776"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2022/23 Budget</th> <th>2022/23 Outturn</th> <th>Surplus / (Deficit) Outturn</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th>£'000</th> <th>£'000</th> <th>£'000</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Schools Block – ISB</td> <td>180,624</td> <td>180,004</td> <td>621</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Central Block</td> <td>2,224</td> <td>2,227</td> <td>(3)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>High Needs Block</td> <td>44,509</td> <td>47,024</td> <td>(2,515)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Early Years Block</td> <td>21,877</td> <td>20,570</td> <td>1,307</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>249,234</td> <td>249,825</td> <td>(591)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DSG Surplus B/F</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>10,664</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Revised DSG Reserve</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>10,073</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Less EY clawback</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>(1,041)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22/23 DSG Reserve</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>9,032</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Of which:</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>SFFD retained</td> <td></td> <td>963</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Growth & Falling Fund C/F</td> <td></td> <td>309</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Net DSG Reserve</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>7,760</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>1.2 There is a large, planned deficit on the HNB. Reserves are being used to support schools with large numbers of HN children.</p> <p>1.3 The underspend on the EY block is due to the lower than expected take up of places. Clawbacks are expected from the DfE.</p> | | | | 2022/23 Budget | 2022/23 Outturn | Surplus / (Deficit) Outturn | | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | Schools Block – ISB | 180,624 | 180,004 | 621 | Central Block | 2,224 | 2,227 | (3) | High Needs Block | 44,509 | 47,024 | (2,515) | Early Years Block | 21,877 | 20,570 | 1,307 | Total | 249,234 | 249,825 | (591) | DSG Surplus B/F | | | 10,664 | Revised DSG Reserve | | | 10,073 | Less EY clawback | | | (1,041) | 22/23 DSG Reserve | | | 9,032 | Of which: | | | | SFFD retained | | 963 | | Growth & Falling Fund C/F | | 309 | | Net DSG Reserve | | | 7,760 | |
| | 2022/23 Budget | 2022/23 Outturn | Surplus / (Deficit) Outturn | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Schools Block – ISB | 180,624 | 180,004 | 621 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Central Block | 2,224 | 2,227 | (3) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| High Needs Block | 44,509 | 47,024 | (2,515) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Early Years Block | 21,877 | 20,570 | 1,307 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 249,234 | 249,825 | (591) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DSG Surplus B/F | | | 10,664 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Revised DSG Reserve | | | 10,073 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Less EY clawback | | | (1,041) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 22/23 DSG Reserve | | | 9,032 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Of which: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SFFD retained | | 963 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Growth & Falling Fund C/F | | 309 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Net DSG Reserve | | | 7,760 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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|--|---|--|
| <p>1.4 There are recommendations on the proposed uses of the underspend on the schools' block, related to growth fund and falling rolls.</p> <p>1.5 There is no intention to build reserves further; funds will be released to schools.</p> <p>1.6 The intention of getting as much money back into schools was discussed at the HNWP. HTs were informed that one more additional payment to schools will be made in the autumn term. Following this, no further payments are likely to be made as the DSG reserves used to make payments are required for unforeseen emergency needs.</p> <p>1.7 HTs questioned whether nursery places could be better promoted within the borough to help alleviate the issue of low take up. The DfE clawback is an ongoing issue as nursery places are based on GLA projections rather than real numbers. A briefing on this issue to be prepared and circulated as an appendix.</p> | <p style="text-align: right;">Action</p> <p>Recommendation (i): Schools' Forum are asked to:</p> <p>(a) Note and comment on the DSG outturn position for 2022/23.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Noted</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">JH</p> |
| <p>2. <u>Local Management of School (LMS Reserves)</u></p> | | |
| <p>Please refer to Appendix A</p> | | |
| <p>2.1</p> <p>2.2</p> <p>2.3</p> <p>2.4</p> <p>2.5</p> <p>2.6</p> <p>2.7</p> <p>2.8</p> | <p>The fact that some schools have needed to draw down on reserves is an indication that schools are beginning to feel under financial pressure.</p> <p>The Financial Monitoring Group (FMG) will be speaking to schools at risk of falling into financial deficit.</p> <p>Schools with large reserves will be questioned to ensure they are making good use of reserves.</p> <p>HTs expressed concerns around the management of the school staff payment increases which is likely to be around 6.5% and will need to be funded by schools.</p> <p>Finance are not aware of any additional funding to support the increase and have advised schools to make provisions of at least 5%. Schools should speak to governors and borough finance to discuss the possibility of increasing the 5% if they feel that due to the nature of their staff that 5% may not be enough.</p> <p>Unions currently have live ballots presently requesting that staff increases be fully funded.</p> <p>Colleagues questioned the Trinity underspend, stating that it is not logical with the large number of high needs children on roll. Some of the underspend is a result of retained funding for capital improvements. Spend is likely to increase with the large number of children with significant needs coming into the school. Trinity will also be affected by the increase in staffing costs. The LA have had detailed funding discussions with Trinity.</p> <p>Reserves are likely to be depleted by year end.</p> <p>Schools heading towards deficit must seek approval from the LA and submit a 3-year recovery plan. Finance are following up with schools projected to be in this position who will be invited to FMG.</p> | |

- 2.9 The LA are not planning to clawback reserves but schools whose reserves exceed 5% (Secondary) and 8% (Primary) will be requested to submit detailed plans of usage.

2022/23 Schools in-year surplus

| Phase | Numbers | Total |
|------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Primary | 10 | £1,446,168 |
| Secondary | 3 | £682,592 |
| All through | 1 | £347,850 |
| Special | 1 | £280,772 |
| Alternative Provision | 1 | £170,892 |
| Total Schools surplus | 16 | £2,928,275 |

2022/23 Schools in-year Deficit

| Phase | Numbers | Total |
|------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Primary | 23 | £3,136,670 |
| All through | 2 | £928,728 |
| Secondary | 1 | £523,886 |
| Total Schools deficit | 26 | £4,589,285 |

| | | |
|--|-----------|-------------------|
| Combined Schools outturn position | 42 | £1,661,010 |
|--|-----------|-------------------|

Recommendation (ii): Schools' Forum are asked to:

- Note LMS Reserves balances for schools 2022/23.
- Submission of 3-year recovery plans by schools in deficit & Plan of usage by schools whose reserves exceeds 5%(Secondary) & 8%(Primary) of annual budget.

Noted

3. High Needs Block (HNB) Outturn for 2022/23

| High Needs Budget 2022/2023 | 2021/22 Outturn | 2022/23 Budget | 2022/23 Outturn | Variance +surplus (-deficit) |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| Alternative Provision | 3,150,015 | 3,437,983 | 3,435,882 | 2,101 |
| ARP Funding | 7,679,447 | 9,168,118 | 11,132,959 | -1,964,841 |
| DSG - Education Inclusion | 1,332,948 | 1,801,499 | 1,406,563 | 394,936 |
| Out of Borough & Non Maintained | 6,820,436 | 7,829,579 | 8,448,443 | -618,864 |
| HN Top Ups - Post 16 | 3,003,921 | 2,180,000 | 1,859,996 | 320,004 |
| SEN Panel Top Ups | 1,762,327 | 1,500,000 | 3,516,738 | -2,016,738 |
| LACHES, Lang. support | 317,440 | 350,234 | 439,602 | -89,368 |
| Initiatives | 313,076 | 688,593 | 977,579 | -288,986 |
| Special School Funding | 11,396,094 | 13,200,725 | 12,269,364 | 931,361 |
| EY Portage & Youth Service | 412,798 | 578,362 | 525,105 | 53,257 |
| Total | 36,188,502 | 40,735,093 | 44,012,231 | -3,277,138 |
| ISP, Supplement grant, Health & Gate Keeping | 2,525,565 | 3,773,557 | 3,011,228 | 762,329 |
| Total Budget | 38,714,067 | 44,508,650 | 47,023,460 | -2,514,810 |

- There was a planned overspend on the which was related to additional funding for schools with large numbers of band F, G & H children.
- HTs reported that £5k funding for a band G child is not enough and that without the exceptional funding, more primary schools would be in deficit and underfunded.
- It was acknowledged that LBBB are in a fortunate position, due to good financial planning and management and good HTs across the borough.
- HTs were positive around the fact that funding will be coming to schools earlier in the Autumn Term.

3.5 Exceptional payments this year may be targeted towards schools that are more in need.

Recommendation (iii): Schools' Forum are asked to:

Note and comment on the 2022/23 High Needs Outturn Position

Noted

4. Early Years (EY) Outturn for 2022/23

4.1 EY funding is received in advance and is based on projected numbers; then some of the underspend is clawed back by the DfE.

4.2 Any remaining underspend will be passed back to providers to support SEND.

4.3 It was agreed that the Council need to ensure that take-up is maximised with providers receiving sufficient funding.

4.4 There is additional funding coming into the EY sector in September. JB is working on this to ensure money is dispensed to providers. An additional 15 to 25% is expected.

Recommendation (iv): Schools' Forum are requested to:

(a) Note and comment on the Early Years Outturn Position

Noted

5. 2023/24 DSG Update

| Block | 2022/23 Final Allocations £000s | 2023/24 Allocations | Movement Fav / (unfav) £000s |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Schools Block | 238,080 | 251,418 | 13,338 |
| Premises (historic) | 9,462 | 9,464 | 2 |
| Growth Fund | 1,423 | 1,566 | 143 |
| Total Schools Block | 248,965 | 262,447 | 13,482 |
| <i>Pupil No</i> | <i>39,882</i> | <i>40,261</i> | <i>379</i> |

Table: 2023/24 Schools Block Allocations

| Block | 2022/23 Allocations | 2023/24 Allocations | Movement + Fav / (unfav) | % Change |
|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| Schools Block* | 248,965 | 262,447 | 13,482 | 5% |
| High Needs | 46,917 | 55,380 | 8,463 | 18% |
| CSSB - On-going | 1,632 | 1,688 | 56 | 3% |
| CSSB - Historic | 592 | 474 | -118 | -20% |
| Early Years (Prov.) | 21,619 | 22,704 | 1,085 | 5% |
| Total DSG Funding | 319,725 | 342,693 | 22,968 | 0 |

*2023/24 Schools block allocation is inclusive of £8.5m Mainstream Schools Additional Grant

5.1 Minor changes due to verified data. Nothing significant to note.

Recommendation (v): Schools' Forum are requested to:

(a) Note and comment on the DSG funding allocation and outturn forecast for 2023/24

Noted

6. High Needs Budget 2023/24

Please refer to Appendix B

Recommendation (vi): Schools' Forum are requested to:

Note and comment on the High Needs budget for 2023/24

Noted

7. Central Schools Services Block 2023/24

7.1 This was discussed at the January Forum and brought again for confirmation.

Recommendation (vii): Schools' Forum are requested to:

Note and comment on the Central Schools Services block for 2023/24

Noted

8. Growth Funding for 2023/24

8.1 The government provide a separate formula for Growth Funding. If the money isn't used it can go into reserves.

8.2 The Council have cut back the growth funding policy significantly to make it affordable without having to top slice from the schools' block. There is an underspend on last year's fund.

8.3 Growth has slowed in the primary sector, with more growth in secondary. The table below sets out the planned use of the funding.

| School | Prim. Growth | Sec. Growth | Prim. AWPU | Sec. AWPU | 40% Uplift | Budget |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| | | | £4,015 | £5,307 | | |
| Beam Primary | 9 | | £21,079 | | | £21,079 |
| Greatfields (Free School) | | 90 | £0 | £278,617 | | £278,617 |
| Riverside Primary (Free School) | 60 | | £140,525 | - | | £140,525 |
| Robert Clack School of Science | 60 | 180 | £140,525 | £557,234 | £279,104 | £976,863 |
| Total | 129 | 270 | £302,128 | £841,158 | £279,104 | £1,417,083 |
| Surplus growth fund | | | | | | £148,493 |
| Growth Fund Allocation (DFE) | | | | | | £1,565,576 |

8.4 There are no proposals to change the policy, but the unused growth fund money will be used to form a falling rolls fund.

Recommendation (viii): Schools' Forum are requested to:

Note, comment, and approve the Growth Fund for 2023/24

Noted

9. Falling Rolls

9.1 Primary schools are experiencing falling rolls and would qualify using previous criteria.

| School | Fall in NOR | Falling Rolls 2023-24 - qualifying schools |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|--|
| Valence Primary School | -49 | 90,498 |
| Marsh Green Primary School | -45 | 82,966 |
| Richard Alibon Primary School | -31 | 57,254 |
| Roding Primary School | -27 | 49,866 |
| Northbury Primary School | -18 | 33,244 |
| William Ford CofE Junior School | -18 | 33,244 |
| William Bellamy Primary School | -16 | 29,550 |
| St Joseph's Catholic Primary School | -15 | 27,703 |
| St Joseph's Catholic Primary School | -15 | 27,703 |
| Gascoigne Primary School | -13 | 24,010 |
| Jo Richardson Community School | -10 | 26,022 |
| | | 482,061 |

Recommendation (ix): Schools' Forum are requested to:

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| | <p>Note, comment, and approve the Falling Rolls for 2023/24</p> | |
| | <p style="text-align: right;">Noted</p> <p>10. <u>Schools Facing Financial Difficulty fund (SFFD)</u></p> <p>10.1 The Schools' Block is top sliced to form the SFFD fund. The fund has been maintained at the current level of £2m for several years. Finance are proposing to continue to maintain the SFFD fund at the current level. Please refer to Appendix C.</p> <p>10.2 There are no current issues with loan repayments.</p> <p>Recommendation (x): Schools' Forum are requested to:</p> <p>Note SFFD funds, loans outstanding 2023/24</p> | |
| | <p style="text-align: right;">Noted</p> <p>11. <u>Mayor of London Free School Meals</u></p> <p>11.1 This item is for information only.</p> <p>11.2 The FSM grant will be based on actual take up, rather than primary school numbers.</p> <p>11.3 Schools were encouraged to continue applying for pupil premium as other funding streams are linked to this.</p> <p>11.4 HTs stated that FSM holiday vouchers are a good incentive for encouraging parents to sign up for FSM. HTs have not received information about the holiday vouchers for the summer. KA will investigate this and report back.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action</p> <p>11.5 HTs suggested the LA and schools work together to encourage take up and inform parents of all the benefits related to FSM sign up. A borough wide comms approach is needed.</p> <p>11.7 JP informed HTs that Tanya Bull circulated an email on the 27 February confirming summer holiday payments of £50 per child.</p> <p>11.8 JH will liaise with comms about an FSM campaign.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action</p> <p>Recommendation (xi): Schools' Forum are requested to:</p> <p>(a) Note the Mayor of London's Free School Meal Grant.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Noted</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">KA</p> <p style="text-align: center;">JH</p> |
| | <p>12. <u>Review of Trade Union Facility Time</u></p> <p>Please refer to Appendix D</p> <p>12.1 The LA are proposing to use the 15% savings rate in 2023/24 which is the most affordable. Most academies have opted to buy into the SLA. Academies that do not buy in will not be entitled to any facility time at all.</p> <p>12.2 At this stage the LA are moving closer to levels of other London boroughs with £6.05 as the next milestone. The teacher profession association reps (NAHT, NASUWT, NEU, ASCL) with LBBB are working on an SLA which sets out arrangements for academies.</p> <p>12.3 HTs questioned where the London average figures came from as neighbouring boroughs are lower, e.g., Enfield is 3.05.</p> | |

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| | <p>12.4 The SLA needs to be clear on what this fund provides and what would be lost if contributions were reduced.</p> <p>12.5 The review of the trade union facility time is complete. This is being processed with recommendations addressed.</p> <p>12.6 HTs questioned why unions are funded within schools and centrally within the LA. This is money allocated to the education of children.</p> <p>12.7 KA shared SF guidance with colleagues, where a government regulatory recommendation states that 0.1% of teaching budgets be contributed towards trade unions.</p> <p>12.8 DB recommended sharing facility time documents to make schools aware of the work trade unions undertake.</p> <p>12.9 Maintained schools requested information contained within the academy SLA so that an informed choice can be made.</p> <p>12.10 HTs agreed to the formation of a working party to bring this matter to a conclusion. TOR will be produced so that objectives are clear, and a wider consultation will go out to all HTs.</p> <p>12.11 LS, speaking on behalf of Primary HTs, stated that the majority of Primary HTs are concerned about the level of funding which is not spent on children.</p> <p>12.12 SF are noting that ‘the LA are returning the 15% of the delegated amount to maintained schools and setting up a working party to make proposals, consider issues and make proposals to the wider group of HTs in time for the final de-delegation position in the January 2024 Schools’ Forum’.</p> <p>12.13 The following maintained HTs will be a part of the working party: Simon Abeledo, Russel Taylor, Tony Roe, and David Huntingford.</p> <p>Recommendation (xii): Schools’ Forum are requested to note the following:</p> <p>(a) 15% savings for 2023/24 for FT contributions.</p> <p>(b) A spot purchase amount equivalent to the annual contribution will be charged to an academy school if they require the services of a trade union representative but has not agreed to an SLA.</p> <p>(c) The LA are returning the 15% of the delegated amount to maintained schools and setting up a working party to make proposals, consider issues and make proposals to the wider group of HTs in time for the final de-delegation position at the January 2024 Schools’ Forum’.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Noted</p> | |
| 5.0 | <p><u>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</u></p> <p>None</p> | |
| 6.0 | <p><u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u></p> <p>Tuesday 17 October 2023, virtual MS Teams meeting from 10:00am to 12:00pm. SH to chair the October 2023 meeting.</p> <p>The headteachers’ pre-meet will be arranged by NY and will commence the day before Schools’ Forum is scheduled to take place at 3.30pm.</p> | |
| 7.0 | <p><u>ACTION LOG</u></p> | |

| Date of meeting | Item No | Action | Owner |
|---------------------|-----------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 27 June 2023 | Item 1.7 | <u>EY - Low take up of nurse places</u> A briefing on the low take up of nursery places to be prepared and circulated as an appendix. | Jane Hargreaves / Joy Barter |
| 27 June 2023 | Item 1.7 | <u>FSM summer holiday voucher</u> KA to investigate why HTs have not received information about the summer holiday FSM vouchers and report back | Kofi Adu |
| 27 June 2023 | Item 1.7 | <u>FSM Comms campaign</u> JH to liaise with Comms around a FSM advertising campaign. | Jane Hargreaves |