



MANCHESTER
CITY COUNCIL

Schools Forum

Date: Monday 19th June

Time: 4.00pm

Venue: Scrutiny Room, Town Hall Extension

Everyone is welcome to attend this committee meeting.

Membership of the Forum

Secondary Sector Headteachers (1) Gillian Houghton

Secondary Sector Governors (2) vacancy, Fiaz Riasat

Primary Sector Headteachers (4) Patricia Adams, Mike Cooke, Sarah Navin, Saeeda Ishaq

Primary Sector Governors (4) Brendon Jones, Gabrielle Higham, Robin Pinner, Michael Flanagan

Special School Headteachers (1) Alan Braven

Special School Governor (1) Peter Tite

Academy Representative (5) Elizabeth Fritchley, Andy Park, vacancy, Ian Fenn, Collette Plant

Pupil Referral Unit Representative (1) Helen McAndrew

Nursery School Representative (1) Liz Hardy

Non-School Members (9) Amanda Corcoran, Councillor Stone, Steve Scott, Cath Baggaley, Joshua Rowe, John Morgan, x 3 vacancies

Agenda

1. Urgent business
To consider any items which the Chair has agreed to have submitted as urgent.
2. Appeals
To consider any appeals from the public against refusal to allow inspection of background documents and/or the inclusion of items in the confidential part of the agenda.
3. Minutes
To approve as a correct record the minutes and notes of the meeting held on 6th March 2017 (enclosed).
4. Dedicated Schools Grant 2016/17 Outturn and School Balances
5. Water Charges Update
6. Forward Plan

Date of next meetings:

- 17th July 2017

Information about the Forum

Schools are represented on the Forum by headteachers and school governors, elected to reflect all categories of school. In Manchester; there are non-school representatives from the teacher associations; additional non-voting places are reserved for invited elected members and representatives of other interested bodies.

The Forum members work together to provide a clear consensus of professional advice to education decision-makers, to achieve a transparent deployment of available resources. The Forum provides a formal channel of communication between the Council and schools for consultation concerning the funding of schools, and aims to agree recommendations which present the best possible compromise between competing claims on limited resources; has strategic oversight of ALL funding decisions affecting schools, and is involved in annual consultation in respect of the Council's functions relating to the schools budget in connection with the following:

- pupils with SEN (Special Educational Needs)
- early years
- revisions to the Council's scheme for the financing of schools
- administration of central government grants to schools including Standards Funds
- arrangements for free school meals

The Forum must be consulted on any proposed changes to the Council's school funding formula, and the financial effects of any proposed changes.

Joanne Roney OBE
Chief Executive
Town Hall, Albert Square
Manchester, M60 2LA

Further Information

For help, advice and information about this meeting please contact:

Donna Barnes

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Manchester Schools Forum

Minutes of the meeting held on 6 March 2017

Present:

Secondary Sector Governors: None

Primary Sector Headteachers: Patricia Adams, Sarah Navin, Saeeda Ishaq

Primary Sector Governors: Brendon Jones, Michael Flanagan

Special School Headteachers: Alan Braven

Academy Representative: Andy Park, Ian Fenn (Chair)

Pupil Referral Unit Representative: Helen McAndrew

Nursery School Representative: Liz Hardy

Non-School Members: Amanda Corcoran, Steve Scott, John Morgan, Cath Baggaley

Executive Member: Councillor Sheila Newman

Council Officers: John Edwards (Director of Education and Skills) Reena Kohli, (Directorate Financial Lead, Children and Families), Rachel Rosewell, (Head of Finance, Growth & Neighbourhoods & Core)

Apologies: None

SF/17/04 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 16 January 2017 were submitted for consideration as a correct record. Saeeda Ishaq (Primary Sector Headteacher) indicated that she had sent her apologies to the last meeting but this information had not been recorded in the minutes.

Decision

To agree the minutes of 16 January 2017 subject to the amendment above.

SF/17/05 Dedicated Schools Grant 2017/18

The Forum considered a report of the Directorate Finance Lead – Children’s Services and Education and Skills which set out the monitoring position of the centrally held Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), with a forecast year-end position of a net overspend of £0.89M. This was largely due to an overspend in the High Needs Block (£1.267M) and was partly off-set by underspends in the Early Years (£225K) and Schools Blocks (£184K).

The Directorate Finance Lead – Children’s Services and Education and Skills introduced the report with a focus on the key variances within the DSG. She highlighted particular pressures within the High Needs Block’s post-16 element which, despite having underspent in previous years, was projected to result in an overspend in this financial year. In response to a question about the likely implications of the overspend, officers indicated that they were seeking new ways to

free up money within the Block and that further work was necessary to determine how this is likely to impact on Manchester schools once the accounts are closed.

Discussions then moved to the Schools Block and particular funding pressures on Pupil Referral Unit places. There was also a discussion about potential funding implications for pupils who have been permanently excluded or did not have an Education Health and Care Plan. The Forum acknowledged the significant and growing pressures on the High Needs Block and noted that whilst efficiencies could be achieved in certain areas, the underlying problem was that of a funding shortfall.

Decision

To note the current projection for the Dedicated Schools Grant retained budget is an overspend of £1.267M that shall be carried forward to the 2017/18 and set against the grant.

SF/17/06 Outcome of Early Years Consultation

The Forum considered a report of the Directorate Finance Lead – Children’s Services and Education and Skills which confirmed the changes in the local Early Years Funding Formula. The Finance Lead – Children’s Services and Education and Skills introduced the report highlighting the focus of the new formula and how that impacted on Manchester’s allocation for the 2017/18 financial year in comparison with that received the previous year. The report highlighted the difference between the DfE’s and Manchester’s hourly rate (£4.87 and £4.53 respectively), indicating that the difference would be used for the Central Early Years Block. A member asked for more information on how the difference would be used. He was informed that it would have a role staff funding as well as a being used as a contingency measure to mitigate the impact of funding calculations that are based on retrospective census data. He was also informed that more money was currently being spent on the 2 year old offer.

The report discussed how in particular the new formula would impact on Collyhurst and Martenscroft maintained nursery schools since these establishments had previously been funded at a significantly higher rate in acknowledgement of their higher running costs. It was explained that the new formula would not allow Local Authorities to retain and cover any additional costs for maintained nursery schools. A supplementary funding allocation would be received for an initial two-year period to cover additional costs and then would be withdrawn. A proposal to remodel the budgets of the two named schools in an attempt to mitigate and safeguard them against facing a funding cliff–edge was discussed in outline.

The report also discussed changes to the funding rates for 2 year old disadvantaged children and Manchester’s Early Years Formula. A member asked about proposals to broaden out the free early education entitlement to a full time offer. She was informed that the offer would be subject to certain eligibility criteria on which HMRC was currently working.

Decision

1. To note the report and support the intention to continue to review the Formula in 2017/18

SF/17/07 Cedar Mount Academy

The Forum considered a letter that had been received from Cedar Mount Academy (CMA) concerning its current financial circumstances. The letter described a slow but steady rise in pupil numbers, tempered by a fluctuation in numbers across the year groups as a result of significant pupil mobility which dated back to 2013. This had then given rise to a cumulative funding shortfall due to established revenue funding arrangements that are based on retrospective census data. Consequently, the school asserted that it faced a £758,000 deficit (at the time of writing), meaning that 110 pupil places were currently unfunded. The Academy went on to predict a continued rise in pupil numbers over the next 2 years to meet the demands for high school places following the expansion of local primary schools to meet the city's residential growth needs. CMA had therefore written to the Forum to request that it formally notes the challenges that the Academy faced in managing the issues arising from the lag in funding as well as the increasing impact on the Academy's ability to make adequate provision for the children and families that it serves. In addition, CMA asked the Forum for any financial help that it could offer in meeting the needs of those pupils who were presently unfunded. CMA went on to say that the Education Funding Agency (EFA) had advised that CMA approach the Forum to seek payment of the lagged funding through the Growth Fund.

A representative of CMA was present at the meeting. She acknowledged that financial pressures were an issue for all schools across the city due to anomalies of school revenue funding arrangements. She, however, emphasised the impact of the chronic nature of these circumstances on the Academy in that the lag had had to be managed over the last 4 consecutive years, with the situation further worsened by rising staff and pay inflation costs (e.g. pension duties, National Insurance increases and the implementation of the Living Wage).

The Forum discussed the challenges of school funding revenue arrangements, the role of the Academy Trust, current and projected pressures on the Growth Fund (and the Dedicated Schools Grant as a whole) and, in particular, the role of the Education Funding Agency in administering education revenue for Manchester's pupils who attend Academies. The Director of Education and Skills urged the Forum to recognise the precedent that would be set should it be minded to intervene and provide financial assistance to the Academy in order to address its significant funding shortfall. The Forum resolved that the duty to meet the needs of the unfunded pupils sat firmly with the Education Funding Agency and that it was not within the remit of the Schools Forum to offer financial assistance. The Forum also resolved to adopt a watching brief to monitor the Education Funding Agency's attitude towards meeting its duty to respond to the needs of a significant number of Manchester's Academies' pupils.

Decision

1. To acknowledge the challenges faced by Cedar Mount Academy in managing the funding pressures that had arisen from fluctuating pupil numbers and the cumulative impact of the funding lag.
2. To register the Forum's concern that the needs of a significant number of Manchester's pupils that attend an Academy are not presently being met
3. To assert that the duty to meet the needs of unfunded pupils at Cedar Mount Academy sits firmly with the Education Funding Agency
4. To assert that the Growth Fund is not an appropriate source of funding for Academy pupils, particularly in light of the growing pressures on the Dedicated Schools Grant.
5. To agree that the Forum shall adopt a watching brief to monitor the Education Funding Agency's response to Cedar Mount Academy's significant funding pressures.

SF/17/08 Draft Consultation Response - Schools Block

The Forum considered a draft response to the National Funding Formula Stage 2, with particular reference to the Schools Block.

The Forum discussed the projected impact of the reforms and considered the analyses that indicated that Manchester schools are more likely to lose funding rather than to gain. Discussions centred around the pressures aligned to pay costs, pension costs, the apprenticeship levy as well as inflation costs. Reference was made to the impact of the funding shortfall on staffing levels, quality of teaching and the support that is needed for pupils from deprived backgrounds and/or those with additional learning needs.

It was suggested that the consultation response ought to contain specific examples of numerical calculations that illustrate the additional challenges that the proposed changes would present for schools with densely deprived (including multiple levels of deprivation) school populations and the cumulative impact that this would present.

The Forum noted that the DfE inferred that Manchester is less deprived due to a decline in the uptake of Free School Meals but that this was contradicted by income deprivation affecting children index (IDACI) data findings that suggested an increase in the incidence of deprivation in Manchester's schools. There was also consensus amongst the Forum that eligibility for Free School Meals was not always reliable measure of need since it may not capture those families that were 'just about managing'. It was suggested that case studies should be considered as part of the response to illustrate the impact. It was also suggested that the link with low prior attainment ought to be carefully considered since some schools may be hit in different ways and for that reason a balance needed to be struck.

With regard to proposals to reset the primary to secondary ratio within the Formula, it was suggested that reference to the contrasting support needs of Year 6 and Year 7 pupils ought to be emphasised.

The Forum endorsed the draft response to the proposal to maximise the emphasis on pupil led funding as opposed to school led funding.

The Forum also discussed the need for emphasis on low prior attainment in the Formula. It was agreed that the consultation response to proposed weighting of each of the additional learning needs factors ought to be reworded to expand and explain how this would impact on school budgets. A member suggested that the impact on white working class ought to be highlighted within the response.

The Forum agreed to amend the draft response to the proposal to limit reductions on local authorities central school services block funding to emphasise that it should instead be increased.

With regard to future mobility funding, the Forum noted the proposal to include pupils who are international new arrivals as a formal indicator given the demands this particular group placed on schools finances. It agreed that the challenges were not limited solely to increased administrative costs and the need for accurate data but also included their significant support needs. Their impact on attendance and attainment were also discussed.

With regard to the question about lagged pupil growth data providing an effective basis for the growth factor in the long term. There was also a discussion regarding the submission of national funding reform consultation. Clarification was provided on the Growth Fund.

Decision

1. To agree the draft consultation response subject to the amendments outlined above.
2. To agree that an amended consultation response be circulated to members for comment prior to final submission.
3. To urge all schools to submit their own specific responses that illustrate the impact of the proposed reforms to their schools.
4. To urge Forum members to submit their comments in respect of further considerations to be taken into account regarding the proposed central schools block formula as soon as possible.

SF/17/09 Draft Consultation Response – High Needs Block

The Forum considered a draft response to the National Funding Formula Stage 2, with particular reference to the High Needs Block.

The Forum discussed the key concern that the high needs funding system does not take into account growth factors and agreed that the proportion of pupils with high needs in Manchester's school population had significantly increased. There was consensus amongst the Forum that current level of funding was insufficient and that

there was limited scope to move funds from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block. There was also discussion about the post 16- 25 element and the funding of Further Education which had not been addressed in the consultation and which had previously resulted in a significant cost pressure on the block, particularly when coupled with deprivation.

With regard to the weighting of formula factors, the Forum agreed that the proposals did not target the most vulnerable categories sufficiently and that the response should include Manchester's own suggestions on how they should be weighted. It also agreed that clear and concise reasons should be submitted to explain why Manchester agreed with the principle that would protect local authorities from reductions in funding as a result of the Formula and for a 'funding floor' to be set. A member commented however that there was a distinct lack of clarity with regard to where this would be funded from.

With regard to further considerations to be taken into account about the proposed high needs national funding formula, the Forum suggested that some reference to pupil mobility ought to be included in the response.

The Chair informed the Forum that he and the Directorate Finance Lead – Children's Services and Education and Skills would meet the following week to finalise the draft response and that this would be circulated to Forum members by email with a request for prompt feedback, in view of consultation closure date on 22 March 2017

Decision

1. To agree the draft consultation response subject to the amendments outlined above.
2. To agree that an amended consultation response be circulated to members for comment prior to final submission.

SF/17/10 Dates of future meetings of the Schools Forum 2016/17

The dates of the schools forum meetings for 2016/17 were agreed as follows:

- 15 May 2017, 4pm
- 19 June 2017, 4pm
- 17 July 2017, 4pm

**Manchester City Council
Report for Resolution**

Report to: **Schools Forum**

Subject: **Dedicated Schools Grant and School Balances 2016/17 –
Outturn Report**

Report of: Interim Director of Education
Head of Finance - Directorate for Children's

Summary

The provisional outturn for schools is an overall revenue surplus of £22.756m, which is a £1.378m decrease in the total surplus held compared to 2015/16. This difference takes in to account the conversion of 4 maintained schools to academy status in 2016/17.

The final position on the centrally retained element of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) was an underspend of £45k.

This report summarises the;

- Outturn position on school balances as at 31 March 2017; and the
- Final outturn position on the DSG including the net surplus on all maintained schools and the final position on the centrally retained DSG.

Recommendations

All members of Schools Forum are asked to:

- Note maintained school balances as at 2016/17.
 - Note the DSG balance carried forward into 2017/18.
 - Approve the proposed use of the £45k DSG surplus.
-

Contact Officers:

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Name: Kate Stonehouse
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Background documents (available for public inspection):

The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report. Copies of the background documents are available up to 4 years after the date of the meeting. If you would like a copy please contact one of the contact officers above.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The purpose of this report is to state and explain the final position of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for 2016/17 in respect of schools and the Council. The 2016/17 DSG plus underspend from a previous year, after academy recouplement, was £312.2m, of which £292.7m was delegated to schools and £19.5m was retained centrally by the Council.

2. PROVISIONAL OUTTURN POSITION FOR SCHOOLS

2.1 The provisional outturn position for maintained schools is an overall revenue surplus of £22.756m. This is a £1.378m decrease in the total surplus held compared to 2015/16. This excludes school balances held on capital codes. The reported position will be finalised when all Consistent Financial Reporting returns have been uploaded to the Collect system by mid July 2017.

2.2 Total Balances by Sector 2016/17:

TOTAL						
	2016/17		2015/16		Difference	
	No.	£'000	No.	£'000	No.	£'000
Nursery	2	327	2	357	0	-30
Primary	99	17,196	99	17,642	0	-446
Secondary	7	2,228	7	3,000	0	-772
Special	14	3,005	14	3,136	0	-131
Total	122	22,756	122	24,134	0	-1,378

Schools with SURPLUS revenue balances						
	2016/17		2015/16		Difference	
	No.	£'000	No.	£'000	No.	£'000
Nursery	2	327	2	357	0	-30
Primary	99	17,196	97	17,702	2	-506
Secondary	6	2,413	7	3,000	-1	-587
Special	13	3,378	13	3,457	0	-79
Total	120	23,314	119	24,516	1	-1,202

Schools with DEFICIT revenue balances						
	2016/17		2015/16		Difference	
	No.	£'000	No.	£'000	No.	£'000
Nursery	0	0	0	0	0	0
Primary	0	0	2	-60	-2	60
Secondary	1	-185	0	0	1	-185
Special	1	-373	1	-322	0	-51
Total	2	-558	3	-382	-1	-176

2.3 Annually, an analysis of reserves review is completed for each school deemed to have excess balances. The following table provides detail on all schools

above the allowable revenue balance, which is 8% of the budget share for primary and special schools and 5% of the budget share for secondary schools, at the end of the 2016/17 financial year.

School Sector	No. of schools with excess balances	Total of excess balances £'000
Nursery	2	242
Primary	47	6,356
Secondary	4	812
Special	9	1,252
Total	62	8,662

At the time of writing this report, the Schools Finance team have had returns from 40 of a possible 62 schools who are required to send in a return. The total committed balances so far are £6.231m. The table below summarises the categories of commitment for these 40 schools:

School	Amount Over the Threshold £'000	Holding Balances on behalf of other schools £'000	Holding External Balances - eg Banker School Funding £'000	Planned Work, not yet began or completed £'000	Planned asset purchases e.g ICT equipment, Library restocking £'000	To offset future year budget reductions £'000	Contingency for backdated payments £'000	Pupil Premium £'000	Total - Committed spend £'000
Nursery	220	0	0	0	0	220	0	0	220
Primary	4,722	0	4	3,195	675	739	0	108	4,721
Secondary	377	0	0	33	16	328	0	0	377
Special	912	0	5	264	74	513	0	57	913
Total	6,231	0	9	3,492	765	1,800	0	165	6,231

2.4 Schools have provided commitments for £6.231m, which is above the level of excess balances that they were required to commit. The majority of commitments allocated are for planned work, which is mainly for buildings, grounds improvements and extensions, totalling £3.492m. Some schools have also retained their surplus for planned asset purchase and, or off-setting future year budget reductions.

3. RETAINED SCHOOL BUDGET 2016/17

3.1 The final outturn position on the centrally retained element of the DSG was an underspend of **£45k**. In March 2017 the Council reported to Schools Forum an estimated DSG overspend of £0.8m. The movement between the projection and final outturn position totals £0.845m and arose as a result of:

- Reduction in Post 16 SEN expenditure;
- Reduction on expenditure relating to Education, Health and Care Plans;
- Final term adjustment to 2,3 and 4 year old funding was lower than expected.

3.2 The table below sets out the note to the Council's Annual Accounts in respect

of the DSG, which has been reported to the Department for Education. The Council's expenditure on schools is funded primarily by grant monies provided by the Department for Education, the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). An element of DSG is recouped by the Department for Education to fund Academy schools in the authority's area. DSG is ring-fenced and can only be applied to meet expenditure properly included in the Schools Budget as defined in the Schools Finance (England) Regulations 2011. The schools budget includes elements for a range of educational services provided on an authority-wide basis and for the Individual Schools Budget, which is divided into a budget share for each maintained school.

3.3 Details of the deployment of DSG receivable in 2016/17 are as follows:

	Central Expenditure £000s	Individual Schools Budget £000s	Total £000s
Final DSG for 2016/17			472,443
Academy figure recouped for 2016/17			160,540
Total DSG after Academy recoupment			311,903
Brought forward from 2015/16			265
Carry forward to 2016/17 (agreed in advance)			0
Agreed budgeted distribution in 2016/17	19,497	292,671	312,168
In year adjustments	0	0	0
Final budgeted distribution for 2016/17	19,497	292,671	312,168
Less actual central expenditure	19,452		
Less actual ISB deployed to schools		292,671	
Plus Local Authority contribution for 2015/16	0	0	0
Carry forward to 2015/16	45	0	45

4. DSG CARRY FORWARD

4.1 For a considerable amount of time Forum have anticipated high needs block budget pressures. The proposed use of the £45k underspend is as follows:

	£'000
Special school places development	45

4.2 The high needs block is a volatile, high risk area due to the static nature of the block and the increasing pupil numbers in the City each year.

4.3 The Council has already started to develop more local less costly provision, creating additional special school places to meet demand within Manchester. The growth in the City's pupil numbers continues to feed through to the high needs block and further increases in special school places and resource provision places in mainstream schools will be required in 2017/18.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 All members of Schools Forum are asked to:
- Note the school balances as at 2016/17.
 - Note the DSG balance carried forward into 2017/18.
 - Approve the proposed use of the £0.045m DSG surplus.

Manchester City Council

Report for Resolution

Report to: [Schools Forum](#)
Subject: **Water Charges to Schools Update**
Report of: Interim Director of Education
Head of Finance - Directorate for Children's

Summary

The purpose of this report is to update the Schools Forum on the level of water charges in the North West.

Recommendations

Forum are asked to comment on the report.

Contact Officers:

Name: Reena Vandhna Kohli

Position: Directorate Finance Lead Children Services

Telephone: 0161 234 4235

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Background documents (available for public inspection):

The following documents disclose important facts on which the report is based and have been relied upon in preparing the report. Copies of the background documents are available up to 4 years after the date of the meeting. If you would like a copy please contact one of the contact officers above.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 It has previously been brought to Schools Forum's attention that schools in the North-West pay higher comparable water bills than many other geographical areas. In 2015 it became known that the charges for water and sewerage services to schools in the North West amounted to:
- Pay £27m for their water and sewerage, whilst schools in the South West paid just £11m., despite having very similar numbers of pupils and schools.
 - Average per school, that's over £10,000 in the North West, compared to less than £4,000 in the South East.
 - Average per pupil, that's over £33 in the North West, compared to less than £13 in the South East.
- 1.2 Challenges to the charging structure in the North West region has been led by officers at Sefton Borough Council and a Councillor of Halton Borough Council with the support of other North West based councils including Manchester.

2. UPDATE

- 2.1 Following a series of discussions United Utilities have agreed to revise their billing policy to reflect North-West concerns. The company has agreed to introduce a concession for schools on the basis that they fall within the scope of the following definition:
- Is used exclusively or nearly exclusively for delivery education and tuition of students for any or all of Key stages 1-5 or equivalent; and also
 - Has a playground facility attached.
- 2.2 The concession will be introduced prospectively in 2018/19 charges scheme and will provide a 50% discount to the wholesale site area charges for surfaced water and highway drainage broadly equivalent in value to one band lower than their existing site area charges. United Utilities expect that this would represent 40% reduction in the overall waste water bill.
- 2.3 United Utilities have also decided to provide a credit to schools in 2017/18 worth about 15% of their wholesale site area charges.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Members of Schools Forum are asked to note the report.

**Manchester City Council
Report for Resolution**

Report to: **Schools Forum**

Subject: **Schools Forum: Forward Plan**

Report of: Interim Director of Education
Head of Finance - Directorate for Children's

Summary

Forward plan of Schools Forum business for the forthcoming academic year.

Recommendations

Members of Schools Forum are asked to note the report.

Contact Officers:

Name: Reena Kohli
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Name: Kate Stonehouse
Position: Senior Finance Manager
Telephone: 0161 245 7853
E-mail: k.stonehouse@manchester.gov.uk

Background documents (available for public inspection):

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The following report provides a forward plan for essential approvals and reports that will be brought to the Schools Forum by officers throughout the 2017/18 academic year. Further reports will be added to the Forum agenda as and when required.

2. FORWARD PLAN

Meeting	Reports
17 th July 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DSG Monitoring report • High Need block report and review • National Funding Formula updates
25 th September 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Funding Formula updates • Early years – 30 hours free entitlement • 2017/18 Funding arrangements • LAC pupil Premium • High Needs block paper
20 th November 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools and Early Years Funding 2017/18 • National Funding Formula updates
18 th December 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DSG Report 2017/18
15 th January 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DSG settlement and budget for forthcoming year
5 th March 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DSG budget monitoring
14 th May 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outturn report – School Balances and centrally retained DSG • DSG update – adjustment to grant allocations • Benchmarking
18 th June 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Review of Scheme for Financing Schools and School Financial regulations
16 th July 2018	

- 2.1 Updates to schools and early years funding reforms will continue to be provided to Schools Forum as announcements are made.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Members of Schools Forum are asked to note the report.