

Nottingham City Council

Schools Forum

Minutes of the meeting held at Loxley House, Nottingham on 21 January 2020
from 2.00 pm - 2.17 pm

Membership

Present

Judith Kemplay (Chair)	Maintained Primaries
Derek Hobbs (Vice Chair)	Secondary Academies
Paul Burke	Secondary Academies
Meeta Dave	Primary Academies
Kerrie Henton	AP Academies and Free Schools
Tim Jeffs	Primary Academies
Stephen McLaren	Maintained Nurseries
Debbie Simon	Early Years PVI
James Strawbridge	Primary Academies
David Tungate	Secondary Academies

Absent

Tom Dick	16-19 Education
Andy Jenkins	Maintained Primaries
Sean Kelly	Special Academies
Patricia Lewis	Maintained Special Schools
Janet Molyneux	Maintained Primary Schools
Cath Rowell	Secondary Academies
Terry Smith	Maintained Primaries
Sheena Wheatley	Trade Unions
Bob White	Secondary Academies

Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:

John Dexter	- Director of Education
Julia Holmes	- Senior Commercial Business Partner
Nick Lee	- Director of Education Services
Kathryn Stevenson	- Senior Commercial Business Partner
Phil Wye	- Governance Officer

24 Apologies for Absence

Andy Jenkins, Maintained Primary Schools
Sean Kelly, Special Academies
Patricia Lewis, Maintained Special Schools
Janet Molyneux, Maintained Primary Schools
Cath Rowell, Secondary Academies
Terry Smith, Maintained Primary Schools
Sheena Wheatley, Trade Unions

25 Declarations of Interest

None.

26 Minutes of the last meeting

The Forum confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on 3 December 2019 as a correct record and these were signed by the Chair.

27 Outcome of the consultation on the proposed changes to the local funding formula for schools in 2020/21

Julia Holmes, Senior Commercial Business Partner, introduced the report collating details of the responses to the consultation with schools following the Secretary of State for Education's September 2019 announcement on funding arrangements for 2020/21.

Nottingham City Council will continue to distribute funding to individual schools in 2020/21 in line with the National Funding Formula (NFF) and to adopt the changes to the formula introduced in 2020/21, including:

- A new mobility formula;
- Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) of between 0.5% and 1.84% per pupil;
- No cap on gains under the NFF.

Resolved to

- (1) note the content of the proposed schools funding formula for 2020/21 in the consultation document;**
- (2) note the consultation responses received from Nottingham City schools and the significantly low response rate;**
- (3) note the Local Authority's proposal to distribute funding to schools in 2020/21 in line with the 2020/21 NFF.**

28 Schools Budget 2020/21

Kathryn Stevenson, Senior Commercial Business Partner, introduced the report presenting the proposed Schools Budget for 2020/21. The Budget has been prepared in line with the parameters agreed at Schools Forum and with the financial regulations issued by the Department for Education.

Nottingham City has received the maximum 17% increase per head for High Needs, which would have been £5.2m higher had there not been a national cap on gains. This allows for a High Needs budget to be set within the allocation with no need to use reserves or a Schools Block Transfer.

The Education and Skills Funding Agency has reduced its allocation for historic commitments of Central Expenditure in the Central Schools Services Block by 20%.

The Chair stressed the importance of ongoing discussions regarding the contributions to the Central Schools Services Block's historic commitments when preparing for future budgets.

Resolved to

- (1) note the overall indicative 2020/21 Schools Budget to be spent incorporating the Schools, Central Schools Services, Early Years and High Needs blocks is £289.303m, as below:**

Schools Block	£219.853m
Central Schools Services Block	£6.008m
Early Years Block	£22.434m
High Needs Block	£39.482
Total Dedicated Schools Grant	£287.776m

- (2) note this is funded by the provisional 2020/21 DSG allocation of £287.776m, the reimbursement of £0.237m funding paid to academies for pupil growth April to August 2020 and £1.060m from the Statutory School Reserve;**

- (3) note that the budget will be updated in year to reflect subsequent adjustments made by the ESFA to the 2020/21 DSG allocation;**

- (4) note that any balance remaining will be allocated to the Statutory School Reserve;**

- (5) note the impact to schools budgets of the indicative allocation as set out below:**

2019/20	£m
EY – 3-4 Year olds universal allocation updated to reflect the January 2019 census	(0.263)
EY – 3-4 Year olds additional 15 hours allocation updated to reflect the January 2019 census	0.339
EY – Maintained nursery school supplementary funding	(0.006)
EY – 2 Year olds allocation updated to reflect the January 2019 census	(0.058)
EYPP – 3-4 Year olds allocation updated to reflect the January 2019 census	(0.021)
HN – ESFA agreed baseline correction linked to college merger	0.360
HN – 2019/20 Import/export adjustment based on January 2018 school census and February R06 2017/18 ILR	0.036
2020/21	
Schools – Increased pupil numbers and the impact of the changes to the NFF in 2020/21	8.112
Pupil growth contingency fund	(0.183)
Historic commitments allocation	(1.060)

Ongoing commitments net effect of reduction in rate and the increase in pupil numbers	(0.011)
EY – Impact of the EYNFF 8p/hour increase on 3 & 4 YO funding allocation	0.290
EY – Impact of the 8p/hour increase on 3 2 YO funding allocation	0.058
HN – NFF allocation excluding basic entitlement factor and import and export adjustments	5.636
HN – Basic entitlement factor	0.148
Total allocation increase	13.377

(6) note the allocation of Pupil Premium funding will be allocated to schools in accordance with the grant conditions.

29 Future meeting dates

The Forum noted the remaining meetings of the 2019/20 academic year on the following Tuesdays at Loxley House:

25 February 2020

28 April 2020

23 June 2020