

Minutes of a meeting of the Leicestershire Schools' Forum held at Beaumanor Hall on Monday 6 November 2017 at 2.00 pm

Present

Kath Kelly	Secondary Academies Headteacher
Callum Orr	Secondary Academies Headteacher
Chris Parkinson	Secondary Academies Headteacher
Nick Goforth	Secondary Academies Headteacher
Suzanne Uprichard	Secondary Academies Governor / PRU
Steve McDonald	Secondary Academies Governor
Chris Swan	Secondary Academies Governor
Bill Nash	Secondary Maintained Governor
Karen Rixon	Primary Academy Headteacher
Jane McKay	Primary Academy Headteacher
Jo Blackburn	Primary Academy Headteacher
Jean Lewis	Primary Academy Governor
David Thomas	Primary Academy Governor
Heather Hall	Primary Maintained Headteacher
Karen Allen	Primary Maintained Headteacher
Martin Turnham	Primary Maintained Headteacher
Vanessa Jones	Primary Maintained Governor
Ros Hopkins	Special Maintained Headteacher
Edy O'Connor	Church of England Representative
Chris Davies	Roman Catholic Representative
Graham Bett	DNCC Representative

In attendance

Ivan Ould, Lead Member, Children and Family Services
Jane Moore, Assistant Director, Education and Early Help
David Atterbury, Head of Service, Education Sufficiency
Alison Bradley, Head of Service, Education Quality and Inclusion
Jenny Lawrence, Finance Business Partner, Corporate Resources
David Heyes, Assistant Business Partner, Corporate Resources
Kathryn McGovern, Headteacher, The Meadow Community Primary School

		Action
1.	<p>Apologies for Absence/Substitutions</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Dave Hedley, Catherine Drury and Paul Meredith.</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes and Matters Arising</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 25 September 2017 were agreed as a true and accurate record subject to the following amendment:</p> <p><u>2018/19 School Funding</u> The tenth paragraph, first line should read “Nick asked if the <u>NFF</u> with projection will be the same as the local authority receives. Jenny confirmed it was not”.</p> <p><u>Matters Arising</u> Karen Allen queried whether the 2016/17 Maintained School Balances should be presented to the Schools’ Forum. Jenny Lawrence commented that the information was published nationally by the DfE and therefore presented to the Schools’ Forum for information. The information also informed Schools’ Forum of any implications for schools carrying large deficits.</p>	
3.	<p>2018/19 School Funding</p> <p>Jenny Lawrence introduced a report which sets out the proposed local authority approach to consultation on options for the 2018/19 School Funding Formula in response to the introduction of the National Funding Formula. Jenny apologised for the paper being circulated to members late. This was due to the data being delayed from the DfE and the working party not being able to meet until 2 November.</p> <p>Jenny reported that the working party had considered the modelling of options for 2018/19 NFF and three approaches were possible as outlined in the report. Jenny added that some changes had been made to the original announcement in December 2016 which are outlined in the report. Jenny highlighted that no school would see a decrease in their cash budget within the NFF. A minimum per pupil funding level would be introduced under the NFF as outlined in the report.</p> <p>Jenny outlined some of the issues the working party discussed including the split around the primary/secondary funding, the high lump sum used and the primary to secondary funding ratio. Discussion had taken place on the implications for schools with regard to the national reduction of the lump sum which has been reduced by £40K.</p> <p>Jenny said that options were presented at the working party on a mechanism to be adopted should costs for school rates, new school growth and age range changes exceed previous allocation.</p>	

	<p>David Thomas highlighted two areas for Forum to note; the implications of not following the NFF principles, the overall level of prior attainment - moving money to the lump sum and any impact upon future school budget baselines.</p> <p>Jenny circulated to the meeting graphs which show the impact of the NFF and the spread of gains across all Leicestershire primary and secondary schools. These provide an overview of the per pupil % increases for all primary and secondary schools delivered by the proposals ordered by school size and 2017/18 deprivation funding per pupil. The front page demonstrates four tables which show what was generated through the NFF and the change in terms of modelling for 2018/19 and 2019/20. The meeting noted that 2 secondary schools show a budget reduction within the diagrams; these are schools subject to mergers and the budget reduction is expected and not related to the introduction of the NFF.</p> <p>Following comments within the working group further modelling on the impact of the changes to lump sum, prior attainment and deprivation had been undertaken on secondary school budgets. Given most secondary schools are funded at the ceiling the impact of any changes was minimal.</p> <p>The Forum noted that the next steps would be to consult with all schools on the best option for primary and secondary schools in Leicestershire as a whole.</p> <p>The consultation will present for primary schools;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The impact of an unchanged NFF • The impact of maintaining prior attainment funding at 2017/18 levels, retaining a lump sum of £150,000 and retaining the focus on IDACI funding through reallocation of the Ever6 funding within the NFF • The combined impact of the local deviations from the NFF • The approach to be taken to a 'balancing adjustment' to ensure the value of individual school budget does not exceed the Schools Block funding. <p>For secondary schools a single option of aligning as close as possible to the NFF.</p> <p>The consultation would be launched on 17 November and close on 30 November. This will allow Schools' Forum to consider any response that they may wish to make on the views expressed by schools for the local authority to take into account in the recommendation on the 2018/19 school formula for consideration by Cabinet on 9 January 2018.</p> <p>The consultation documentation will be available through the Leicestershire Traded Services website and an email will be sent to all headteachers and Schools Forum members to alert them to this.</p>	All
<p>4.</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>There was no further business.</p>	

5.	Date of Next Meetings Monday 4 December 2017 Monday 22 January 2018 (provisional) Wednesday 28 February 2018 All dates from 2.00 – 4.00 pm at Beaumanor Hall	
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