



SCHOOLS FUNDING FORUM AGENDA

8.30 - 11.00 am

24 September 2015

**CEME
Room 233**

Members: 26 Quorum: 10

MEMBERSHIP:

Representative Groups

Head Teachers (12):

Nigel Emes, Chairman (Primary School)
Margy Bushell, (Primary School)
Kirsten Cooper (Primary School)
David Denchfield (Primary School)
Malcolm Drakes (Primary School)
Julian Dutnall (Secondary Academy)
Bill Edgar (Secondary School)
Chris Hobson (Primary School)
Simon London (Secondary Academy)
Keith Williams (Academy)
Tim Woodford (Academy)

Governors (7):

Wayne Chretien
Sheila Clarke
Bernard Gilley
Daren Jackson
John McKernan
Derek Smith MBE
Gary Pocock

Non-School Representatives (4):

Katrina Karwacinski, Early Years/PVI Sector
Maria Thompson, Post 16 - Non School Representative

Trade Unions (3):

John Giles, Unison
Keith Passingham, National Association of
Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers (NASUWT)
Ray Waxler, NUT - Trade Union

For information about the meeting please contact:
David Allen david.allen@havering.gov.uk 01708 433851

If you are unable to attend please contact your named substitute or ask David Allen to do so on your behalf.

1. Apologies for absence and announcement of substitute members or observers

2. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

To elect a Chair and Vice Chair until the first meeting of the autumn term 2016.

3. To agree the notes of the meeting held on 18th June 2015

The notes are attached at Appendix A.

4. Matters Arising

5. Membership

(i) To note the follow appointments:

Derek Smith (Sanders School) governor representative of maintained secondary schools;
Emma Allen (Corbets Tey School) head teacher representative of maintained special schools;
Gary Pocock (Hornbeam Academy Trust) academy representative of the special academy;

(ii) To note the vacancies for governor representatives of secondary academies and of the pupil referral service.

6. Schools Forum Operational and Good Practice Guide (Pages 7 - 44)

To receive the Schools Forum Operational and Good Practice Guide issued by the DfE in March 2015. Appendices B, B.1, B.2 and B.3 refer. Members are asked to consider the self-assessment toolkit.

7. Section 251 Outturn 2014-15 (Pages 45 - 54)

To receive the section 251 outturn statement of Children's Services expenditure for 2014-15. Appendix C refers.

The Chief Finance Officer is required to sign off the deployment of DSG. The CFO statement is attached at Appendix C.1 with explanatory notes at Appendix C.2 for information.

8. Allocation of the DSG balance carried forward from 2014-15 (Pages 55 - 60)

To re-consider proposals at the last meeting for use of the balance from the 2014-15 centrally held DSG.

(i) SEND Reforms
Appendix D refers

(ii) Support for Vulnerable Children
Appendix E refers

(iii) Falling Rolls Fund
Appendix F refers

9. School Partnership Fund (Pages 61 - 62)

To consider agreed rates for the release of school staff in partnership arrangements. Appendix G refers.

10. Schools Revenue Funding 2016-17 (Pages 63 - 64)

In July 2015 the DFE issued guidance on 2016-17 which can be found in the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schools-funding-arrangements-2016-to-2017>

The guidance includes the following:

(i) Ministerial statement (Appendix H)

(ii) School revenue funding 2016-2017 – operational guide (to be tabled)

(iii) School revenue funding 2016-2017 – criteria for allocating the growth fund, falling rolls fund and targeted high needs funding

(iv) Schools block units of funding 2016 to 2017 – technical note

(v) Efficiency guidelines

These documents will be summarised at the meeting.

11. Central Expenditure (Pages 65 - 68)

To consider the continuation into financial year 2016-17 of the centrally held budgets funded from the DSG. Appendix I refers.

12. De-delegation (Pages 69 - 80)

To consider the de-delegation of funding in 2016-17 to support the central provision of a range of services permitted by the Schools Financing Regulations. Appendix J, J.1 and J.2 refer.

13. Formula Funding 2016-17 (Pages 81 - 82)

The rates used for the 2015-16 financial year are attached at Appendix K. It is not currently proposed to vary these rates for 2016-17 but this is subject to DfE announcements on school funding arrangements and demands which may require a transfer of funding to the High Needs Block.

In 2015-16 the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) was 1.5% and a gains cap was applied to limit increases to 0.91%. The 1.5% MFG is retained for 2016-17 and the gains cap will depend on affordability.

14. Exceptions (Pages 83 - 86)

To consider exceptions to the MFG and any premises related exceptions. DfE proforma attached at Appendix L.

15. Academy Conversions

To note that Dycorts School became a sponsored academy on 1st September 2015. The LA has four months in which to close the school's accounts and transfer any surplus to the Trust.

16. Next Meetings

To note meeting dates arranged as follows:

Thursday 22nd October 2015
Thursday 10th December 2015
Thursday 21st January 2016
Thursday 17th March 2016
Thursday 28th April 2016
Thursday 23rd June 2016

17. Any Other Business

