



SCHOOLS FUNDING FORUM AGENDA

8.30 - 11.00 am

18 September 2014

**CEME, Room 233,
Main Entrance**

Members: 26 Quorum: 10

MEMBERSHIP:

Representative Groups

Head Teachers (12):

Margy Bushell
Kirsten Cooper, Nelmes Primary
David Denchfield
Julian Dutnall
Bill Edgar, Gaynes School
Nigel Emes
Chris Hobson
Simon London, Hall Mead School
Keith Williams
Angela Winch
Tim Woodford, Upminster Junior Academy
Geoff Wroe

Christine Drew, PRU

Governors (7):

Daniel Gricks
John McKernan
Tracey Walker
Joe Webster

Non-School

Representatives (4):

Katrina Karwacinski, Early Years/PVI Sector
Maria Thompson

Trade Unions (3):

Ray Waxler, NUT
Keith Passingham, NASUWT
John Giles, UNISON

For information about the meeting please contact:
Jan Grainger jan.grainger@havering.gov.uk 01708 432436

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

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS OR OBSERVERS**

Emma Allen (substitute for Geoff Wroe).

2. **TO AGREE THE NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON...** (Pages 1 - 8)

The notes are attached at Appendix A.

3. **MATTERS ARISING**

4. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN**

To elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman until the first meeting of the autumn term 2015.

5. **MEMBERSHIP**

- I. To note that Kirsten Cooper, Head Teacher of Nelmes Primary School has been appointed as Head Teacher representative for primary cluster D.
- II. To note that Christine Drew has been appointed as representative of the Pupil Referral Unit in place of Noel McNab.
- III. To note that John Giles is appointed as UNISON rep in place of Dave Thomas. Pauline Lewis is the named substitute.
- IV. To note the vacancies of two primary school governors, a special governor.
- V. To note the retirement of Trevor Sim, representative of vulnerable children. The Schools Forum regulations no longer require this category of representation and the LA is therefore not proposing to seek a replacement.

6. **SECTION 251 OUTTURN 2013-14** (Pages 9 - 18)

To receive the provisional section 251 outturn statement for 2013-14. Appendix B refers.

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

7. **SCHOOL CARRY FORWARD BALANCES**

To consider the returns from schools on use of balances carried forward from 2013-14. This document will be sent confidentially to Schools Funding Forum members as it is not for publication.

8. **SCHOOLS IN FINANCIAL DIFFICULTY** (Pages 19 - 20)

At the meeting of the Schools Funding Forum in June 2014 it was agreed to provide financial support to schools that were considered to be in financial difficulty due to falling roll numbers. The funding was allocated on a formulaic basis based on pupil numbers below capacity with an excluding factor of high carry forward balances. This was to be reviewed following receipt of schools' explanations for their high balances.

The criteria for financial support are attached at Appendix D. The application of the criteria to schools will be sent to members confidentially as it is not for publication.

9. **FAIRER FUNDING OF SCHOOLS - DfE FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2015-16**

To note the funding arrangements for 2015-16. This 33 page document will be tabled at the meeting. The link to the DfE website is:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fairer-schools-funding-arrangements-for-2015-to-2016>

This document will be summarised at the meeting.

10. **SCHOOLS REVENUE FUNDING 2015-16 - OPERATIONAL GUIDANCE**

To note the EFA guidance on the implementation of the funding arrangements for 2015-16. This 75 page document will be tabled at the meeting. The link to the DfE website is:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fairer-schools-funding-arrangements-for-2015-to-2016>

This document will be summarised at the meeting.

11. **DfE CONSULTATION ON THE SCHOOL AND EARLY YEARS FINANCE REGULATIONS 2014**

Changes in school and early years funding are determined through regulation. The DfE has launched a consultation on the changes to the regulations with a response deadline of 17th October.

The documents can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/school-and-early-years-finance-england-regulations-2014>

The LA is not proposing to respond to the consultation regulation.

12. **EXCEPTIONAL FACTORS AND MFG EXCLUSIONS FOR 2015-16**

The deadline for submitting applications to the DfE for exceptional premises factors and MFG exclusions relating to 2015-16 is 30th September 2014.

The LA is not proposing to submit applications for exception.

13. **LBH CONSULTATION WITH SCHOOLS** (Pages 21 - 36)

A draft consultation document for schools on funding changes is attached at Appendix F.

14. **ACADEMY CONVERSIONS**

To note that Pyrgo Priory School has received approval to convert to an academy. The expected date is 1st January 2015.

Including Pyrgo there are 8 primary academies (of 59), 14 secondary academies (of 18) and a University Technical College (ELUTECH).

The OASIS Academy Romford (a Free School) is expected to open in September 2015.

15. **EDUCATION SERVICES AND COUNCIL BUDGET** (Pages 37 - 38)

LAs and Academies receive an Education Services Grant for services based on the number of children attending maintained schools. The impact on Havering of changes in 2015-16 is outlined at Appendix G.

Significant reductions to other council funding and other legislative changes also impact on the Council's overall budget.

16. **NEXT MEETINGS** (Pages 39 - 40)

Document attached

17. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**