



Wirral Schools Forum

Date:	Wednesday, 6 July 2016
Time:	6.00 pm
Venue:	Council Chamber, Wallasey Town Hall

Contact Officer: Sue Ashley
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AGENDA

1. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 27TH APRIL 2016 (Pages 1 - 6)
2. MATTERS ARISING
3. LIBRARY SERVICE (Pages 7 - 12)
4. EARLY YEARS UPDATE (Pages 13 - 14)
5. ARRANGEMENTS FOR ALTERNATIVE PROVISION (Pages 15 - 20)
6. CONTINGENCY AND SPECIAL STAFF COSTS (Pages 21 - 22)
7. PFI FORMULA UPDATE (Pages 23 - 26)
8. SCHOOL BALANCES 2015-16 AND FUTURE BALANCE POSITION (Pages 27 - 28)
9. SCHOOLS BUDGET OUTTURN 2015-16 (Pages 29 - 34)
10. SCHOOL BUDGET MONITORING 2016-17 (Pages 35 - 38)
11. FORUM WORKING GROUPS AND MEMBERSHIP (Pages 39 - 40)
12. WORKPLAN AND FUTURE DATES (Pages 41 - 42)
13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

WIRRAL SCHOOLS' FORUM

27th April 2016

MINUTES

Present: A Whiteley (Vice Chair)

Schools Group

L Ayling	L Ireland
A Baird	N Lightwing
B Chadwick	D Marchant
E Cogan	J McCallum
S Dainty	J Pearson
J Goalen	K Podmore
A Heron	T Taylor (S)

Non-Schools Group

M Bulmer	N Prance
A Donelan	A Rycroft (S)

In Attendance:

S Ashley	M Morris
S Bennett	A Norbury
P Cleary	T Ramzy
A Davies	A Roberts
C Flemming	A Smith
S Gibbs	Cllr P A Smith
J Hassall	A Snow
M Lane	A Turnbull
C McGowan	

<u>Apologies:</u>	J Billinge (Chair)	S Higginson
	S Davies	C Hughes
	J Devine	B Jordan
	S Duggan	S McNamara
	K Frost	T Quinn
	I Harris	P Young

1. **Training Session** – Andrew Roberts provided training on the Role of the Schools Forum before the meeting, which was well attended.
2. **Minutes from the Meeting held on 13th January 2016**
The minutes from the meeting held on 13th January 2016 were accepted as a true record.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes however Forum members asked that they be kept up to date with any national developments on water charges (Minute 3).

4. Insurance for School

Mike Lane summarised the scope of the Insurance services that maintained schools receive. Insurance premiums are competitive and most schools continue to buy in to the SLA.

A service has also been developed for schools who have converted to academies and there is a strong take up of this offer.

The service is responsive to changes in school needs. From April 2016 full malicious damage has been extended to school buildings and their contents. The Diocese of Shrewsbury has made a decision to insure buildings and contents directly, however the council will continue to provide other classes of insurance cover.

As more schools consider converting to academies the Insurance team have requested that they are informed as soon as possible so they can provide advice on the best options for schools moving forward.

Resolved

Forum noted the range of services available and the request that schools inform the insurance team of their intention to convert to academy status as soon as possible.

5. Energy Contract for Schools

Andrew Snow outlined the school electricity and gas contracts. 118 Wirral schools, including PFI Schools and Academies, purchase energy through the Local Authority's contract. Electricity and gas are purchased by the Crown Commercial Service on behalf of the wider public sector, which allows them to buy on the wholesale markets and keep the costs down for schools.

The energy team provide general support to schools with their utility costs, as well as providing advice for energy certificates, energy and sustainability awareness and training opportunities.

Resolved

Forum noted the report

6. MEAS update

Anna Turnbull updated the Forum on the service level agreement that will be provided to schools from September 2016 for MEAS Services. So far 53 schools have bought back services to the value of £66k for the 7 months to March 2017. Although the restructure of the service means there will be a reduction of staffing the team will keep much of its breadth of skills enabling it to provide a broad based service to schools.

Tuyet Ramzy summarised the services provided from September 2015 to March 2016 and the positive feedback from school staff and pupils.

Forum members requested that the restructure and costs be brought to a future meeting.

Resolved

Forum noted the report

7. Early Years Working Group

The early years working group met in February to discuss the implementation of the extended 30 hour funding offer for 3 & 4 year olds.

The main issues/concerns discussed by the group were:-

- There are still too many uncertainties around the 30 hour offer.
- The offer relates to working parents. Is this reaching those in greatest need?
- Staffing costs are increasing, through Living Wage and changes to NI and pensions.
- Capital funding to ensure setting have capacity
- Recruitment/quality of staff
- Impact on children with SEN

Future meetings will be led by Carol Fenlon. The remit of the group should also cover EYPP and the expansion of the 2 year old offer. Future representation on the group will include Penny Bishop to represent SEN and Andrew Roberts for Finance.

Resolved

Forum noted the report

8. School Admissions Update

Sally Gibbs summarised the work of the Admissions Team for admission to primary and secondary schools. There were over 7,500 applications for entry to school in September 2015 and 2,000 in year transfers between schools. The team has made further progress in the use of on-line applications, through e-Admissions with 87% of applications processed in this way. The e-Admissions system will be replaced during the year. A new Capita module aims to improve the link between admissions and SEND and enable better information sharing.

Resolved

Forum noted the report

9. Arrangement for High Needs/SEND

Margaret Morris highlighted the main areas of SEND funding, especially the Exceptional Needs spend and a proposal for the future allocation of this money.

Most children and young people with SEND will have their needs met in a mainstream setting with no extra funding other than that provided within the formula budget.

Early years settings apply for funding where a child's additional needs cannot be met from their allocated budget.

Mainstream schools apply for Individual Pupil Funding Agreements (IPFAs). A maximum of 7 additional units can be provided.

There is an exceptional needs budget for special schools, alternative provision and school resource bases. As this budget was £370k overspent last year, all cases will be examined by a panel. Funding will be child specific and will provide up to a maximum of

30 additional TA hours. This will be time limited and will be regularly reviewed. There is an appeals process in place.

Resolved

Forum noted the report and the ongoing work around high needs.

The implications of the National High Needs Funding review will be considered by the working group.

10. White Paper Educational Excellence Everywhere

Julia Hassall gave a brief outline of the Educational Excellence Everywhere paper.

- Every school to become an academy by 2022.
- School expected to convert as multi-academy trusts – sharing skills and resources
- Responsibility of school improvement to be removed from LA control and transferred to teaching schools.
- Education Services grant to be removed by 2020
- National funding formula to be introduced
- Pupil Premium will continue to be paid separately.
- LA responsibilities to ensure all children have a school place and that the needs of children are met.

Resolved

Forum noted the report

11. National Funding Formula for Schools Update

Andrew Roberts summarised the main proposals from the school funding consultation as detailed below:-

- The National Funding Formula will be in 2 parts
 - A soft formula in 2017-18 which will determine the funding from a national to local level.
 - A hard formula from 2019-20 where the funding for each school will be determined by a national formula.
- No significant changes to the formula elements used.
- MFG will continue, however, LAs may be able to set it at a lower amount than the current -1.5%.
- De-delegation of services will be withdrawn from 2019.
- LAs will not provide school improvement services from September 2017.
- Funding for combined budgets is to be reviewed.
- A new formula funding LA for High Needs will be introduced and will be based on pupil numbers, health and disability, low attainment, deprivation and 2016-17 historic spend.
- There will be a new formula for early years. More detail is needed to understand the implications from these changes. A further consultation is expected over the summer.

Resolved

Forum noted the report

12. PFI Costs

Andrew Roberts updated the Forum on the costs of PFI and an exercise to compare the PFI facilities management costs with other similar schools. This compared PFI costs with school data from 2013-14. There is a small difference for FM services of 11p per square metre. However, there are other costs that are unique to PFI, particularly in relation to risk and profitability. A PFI factor is permitted within the school funding formula. Since there is no additional funding available if this was introduced it would reduce funding allocated to other factors. This needs to be discussed further through the Forum Funding working group.

Resolved

- Forum endorsed the work undertaken to date.
- Forum agreed that the introduction of a PFI factor is referred to the Forum working group for further discussion.

13. Schools Budget Provisional Outturn 2015-16

Christine McGowan informed the Forum that the expected position of the Schools Budget outturn for 2015-16 has improved slightly with forecast overspend of £150k, mainly due to SEN costs. This overspend will be met from existing reserves. In total DSG reserves have reduced from £3.5m at 31st March 2015 to £2.6m at 31st March 2016.

Resolved

Forum noted the report

14. Update on School Balances

Sue Ashley updated the Forum on the expected future level of school balances. Due to the hard work of Headteachers and governors the expected position in March 2017 has improved significantly and is now indicating a credit of £3.5m. The report describes the ongoing actions that will be taken by schools to ensure that budgets are robust as we move forward.

Resolved

The Forum noted the report

15. Schools Budget 2016-17 Update

Andrew Roberts informed the Forum of the Schools budget changes that have been made since the previous report in January. They are:-

- The primary budget is now £93m after taking account of changes for CLCs, wellbeing, de-delegation and academies.
- The secondary budget is now £27m after taking account of changes for CLCs, de-delegation and academies.

- Early Years Census is finalised and the DSG has increased by £129k following an increase in 3 & 4 year olds.
- A reduction of an estimated 44 eligible 2 year olds.
- Early Year pupil premium grant of £65k. This slow take up is in line with other authorities.
- Places in resource bases have reduced from 283 to 258 places from September 2016.
- Orrets Meadow places will increase from 66 to 70. Initially the increased cost will be met from contingency.
- CLC combined budget is supported until July 2016.
- Wellbeing and School Staff Surveys costs are supported until July 2016.
- Further changes to the DSG may be made during the year to reflect academy conversions and the Early Years census in January 2017.

Resolved

Forum noted the report.

16. Forum Membership Update

Sue Ashley updated the forum on the membership changes. There is currently one non-teacher vacancy. As schools convert to academies the weighting between primary, secondary and academy places will change based on pupil numbers.

Resolved

The Forum noted the report

17. Workplan

The workplan was provided for information.

The date of the next meeting is:-

Wednesday 6th July 2016

18. Any Other Business

There was no other business

Wirral Schools Forum
School's Library Service Update
6th July 2016

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report updates the Forum on the recent changes to the Schools' Library Service and the service plans for the future.

BUDGET

The Schools library Service is a de-delegated service, mainly for Primary Schools although other schools can access services on request. Funding provides for a budget of £191,700, the equivalent of £7.89 per primary school pupil. The make up of the budget is shown below.

2016-17

Staffing	£96,300
Other costs including book fund	£63,100
Premises Charge	£30,000
Support Services Recharge	£13,600
Income	(£11,300)
TOTAL	£191,700

During the year the service was re-located and is now based at the Wirral Hospital school site.

2016-17 PRIORITIES

- To maintain current level of book, artefact loans and audio visual resource provision for schools as a standard service
- Plans for income generation through additional services to schools, allowing academy buy-back and a secondary schools e book service (under discussion.)

STAFFING

There are currently 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ FTE members of staff:

- 2 * 0.5 Schools' Librarian - job share
- 1 * 0.75 Assistant Schools' Librarian - $\frac{3}{4}$ post
- 1 Admin Support

Additional temporary staff members are employed three times a year to help facilitate the collection and delivery of resources to and from schools at the beginning and end of each term.

The service is based at:
Joseph Paxton Campus
157 Park Rd North,
Claughton
CH41 0EZ
0151 666 3200

This has been a positive move, located on a school campus in a more central position.

The attached newsletter for schools describes in more detail the services offered.

Louise Rice and Catherine McNally
Wirral Schools' Library Service

July 2016

Draft Copy

Wirral Schools' Library Service

Wirral School s' Library Service is currently available to all maintained state nurseries, primary schools and special schools and staff hope to re-establish a service offer to secondary schools at some time in the near future. We provide a range of up to date resources which support the national curriculum and reading for pleasure. We also offer advice and practical solutions to help schools provide excellent school libraries.

Our team of librarians have the experience and curriculum knowledge to compile collections of resources tailored to your needs and are always willing to offer advice on any aspect of your school library.

The SLS is funded via Wirral Schools Forum and is £7.89 per pupil. We are not a traded service.

1. What we offer

- Non-fiction books to support the national curriculum
- Fiction books- from picture books to teen fiction
- Poetry sets
- Resource packs- author collections, photo/poster packs etc
- Artefact loans
- DVD's to support author packs
- Class sets of 30 copies
- Group sets of 6 copies
- CD's, big books, story sacks

2. How do we work?

Project Loans

- One loan per year group per term.
- These are resources collected together for each individual request. They comprise of books, DVDs, CDs, posters. The number of items will vary with availability and the number of classes in each year group.
- Normally a school can expect between 20-40 books per year group.
- All resource loans are delivered to and collected from schools at the beginning and end of each term.

Literacy support

- A block loan is available to all schools of 250 books to enhance their library.
- One class set OR 5 group sets of six books of the same title OR one author set per year group

- Class sets are available and these are 30 copies of the same title, including DVD or CD where appropriate.
- Author/illustrator sets are a set of books by a significant author/illustrator including biographical information, posters, DVD or CD as available.

Artefact Loans

- Artefact loans are one loan per year group.
- Artefact loans support History, RE, Art and Design topics. The number of items vary with availability but will normally be between 5 and 15.
- CD-Roms and White board actives are available and these are also one loan per year group.
- A list of items is available on our website.
- All resource loans are delivered to and collected from schools at the beginning and end of each term.

3.Staffing

- The service at present has a staff of 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ FTE which includes 1.5 professionally qualified librarians.
- Temporary staff are employed at the beginning and end of terms to expedite collection and delivery of resources.

4. Operational procedures and guidelines:

Requests

- Requests and books can be made by fax, phone, email or in person. All loan requests should be made before the half term break of the preceding term. All items will be delivered to school in the first two weeks of term.
- Lists of artefacts, class sets, whiteboard CD- Roms and author packs are available on request or via our SLS website.
- If requested resources are unavailable, a suitable substitute will be provided.

Delivery and Collection of Resources

- The school will agree to make sure all resources are returned or are available for collection by 9am on the due date.
- SLS will notify schools of the collection date when resources are supplied. The contracted courier will also remind schools by email of the date they are calling to collect the resource boxes.

Loans

- Although items are issued to individual teachers, it is the school's ultimate responsibility to ensure all loans are returned on time.
- SLS reserves the right to charge for overdue loans, damaged books and damaged artefacts.
- We also reserve the right not to provide loans to individuals who have not returned previous loans by their due date.

School Responsibilities

- To nominate a member of staff as a contact/liaison for the SLS.
- Resource loans requests to be completed and returned to SLS by end of term.
- Resource loans to be ready for collection on dates agreed and returned in their original packaging.

5. Performance indicators

- % of schools using the SLS.
- % of satisfaction with resources.
- Numbers of resources borrowed.
- Number of school libraries visited.

6. Comparison with other authorities

- Wirral SLS £7.89 per pupil.
- Knowsley SLS £12.40 per pupil
- Cheshire SLS £11.75 per pupil

Both Cheshire and Knowsley charge extra for additional services including artefact loans, author packs and story sacks which Wirral provide for no additional cost. Library planning and reorganisations are also extra.

Average cost of children's hardback book 2015 - £12.88

Average cost of children's paperback book 2015 - £5.99

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Early Childhood Service

Newsletter

Early Childhood Business Support
and Quality improvement Team

Welcome to the first edition of this newsletter produced by the Early Years Business Support and Quality Improvement Team. This newsletter will be produced on a termly basis and will contain web links to relevant sites, Ofsted updates, celebrations and anything else we think may be of interest. We hope in the future you will offer contributions to share with all childcare providers on the Wirral – these could be examples of good practice or any particularly useful information.

The team consists of

Sarah Harper Team manager ①

Lucy Eyre Funding officer ②

Stephen Lindop Administration ③



Childcare Quality Improvement Officers

QIO's are currently based at Cloughton Children's Centre. We are developing the service and defining our offer, this will include support, advice and information to various sectors of childcare provision.

Joanne Fahy Wirral West ④

Karen Norbury Birkenhead ⑤

Ellie McMillan Wallasey ⑥

There are currently two vacancies within the team. One for a Quality Improvement Officer to cover the South Wirral area and another for a data officer.

Early Years Intervention officers

EYIO's work primarily with early years settings that have an Ofsted rating of below good and offer advice and support relating to children with special educational needs or disability (SEND).

Penny Bishop Team Manager

Joanne France West + Wallasey ⑦

Sue Lamey South + Birkenhead ⑧

Funding Updates

Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)

To help increase the take-up of Early Years Pupil Premium we are devising a process which isn't reliant on application forms. This is in the early stages of discussion with the legal department and we are hopeful this will be implemented for Autumn 2016.

30 hours extension to 3/4 year funding

Wirral Local Authority is not part of the pilot which begins in Sept 2016, but will be making links with Cheshire West and Chester who are taking part. Wirral L.A will be offering the additional 15 hours to parents/carers to begin Sept 2017. An expression of interest has been completed and submitted to government by Wirral Borough council. This is to bid for capital funding to increase capacity for 3 and 4 year olds. If successful we may use factors such as number of eligible parents, number of parents who already pay for additional hours, spare capacity in each area and consultation with parents to then target this funding appropriately. We will be holding consultations in the near future with parents and the childcare sector on how best to put this into practice.

Headcount Provider Portal for 2, 3 and 4 year funding

The provider portal is an electronic head count so that providers can submit details of children they are claiming for online, this will be quicker and easier than the current paper process. This is currently being piloted with a small group and more providers will be joining the pilot in September with full roll out aimed for April 2017.

Training

2 year integrated review

As some of you may be aware we have recently delivered a number of Integrated Review training sessions for day-care and pre-school settings. The training has proved popular and further dates will be offered in the future.

By now we are hoping that all settings have been contacted by their Link Health Professional (LHP) and are waiting on the completed paperwork necessary to undertake the Integrated Review process to be delivered by your LHP.

We will soon be inviting child-minders to a briefing session to introduce the Integrated Review Process and consult with them on how the Integrated Review process can be implemented when a child attends a child-minder setting. Following this briefing we will roll out training to support child-minders to implement the review from January 2017.

PREVENT

The team have recently facilitated Prevent training, this concerns preventing the radicalisation of families or children. If it is an expectation from Ofsted that settings would have knowledge of the Prevent duty. If any providers would like a place on future Prevent training please contact **0151 488 5948** or **0151 334 1381** or email fis@wirral.gov.uk

Childminder information Session

This session is to inform potential childminders of what legal requirements need to be met and to help them make a decision as to whether childminding is the right career choice for them. The next session is to be held on July 12th at Pensby Children's Centre, Fishers Lane, Pensby CH61 8SD, 6.00pm – 8.00pm. Please contact **0151 488 5948** or email fis@wirral.gov.uk to book a place.

Useful links

Wirral Safeguarding Children's Board (WSCB) <https://www.wirralsafeguarding.co.uk>

Wirral Families Information Service (FIS) fis@wirral.gov.uk

Wirral Council website Early Years and Childcare section – for information regarding 2 year funding, what's on in children's centres and other relevant information <http://www.wirral.gov.uk/early-years-and-childcare>

Please do not hesitate to contact **the Business support and quality Improvements Teams** on **488 5948** or email fis@wirral.gov.uk or **the School Readiness Team** on **631 3311** or email pennybishop@wirral.gov.uk, suelamey@wirral.gov.uk or joannefrance@wirral.gov.uk

Childminder Information

Childminder stay and play sessions

These are sessions specifically run by childminders for childminders within children's centres. Currently these take place at

Pensby Children's Centre,
Fishers Lane, Pensby CH61 8SD
Monday 9.30am – 11.30am

Brassey Gardens Children's Centre,
2 Brassey Street, Birkenhead CH41 8DA
Tuesday 9.30am – 11.30am

Seacombe Children's Centre,
St Pauls Road, Seacombe CH44 7AN
Wednesday 9.30am – 11.00am

We are hoping to add to these sessions as the service develops.

Below is a link to the Early years and Childcare registration handbook produced by Ofsted this contains information regarding the new rule enabling childminders to use 50% of their Ofsted registration on non-domestic premises

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/497338/EY_and_childcare_reg_handbook.pdf

Car Seat Safety

Wirral Council's Road Safety Team often get asked questions about child car seats by parents such as:

When do I move my child to the next car seat?

Why do they face backwards?"

What age are children allowed in the front?

Can I use a friend's car seat?
amongst many others.

The Road Safety Team offer free car seat talks to groups to answer these questions and to give further advice on fitting, buying, storing and the recent changes in legislation.

To book a talk contact the **Road Safety Team** on **0151 606 2191** or email roadsafety@wirral.gov.uk

Wirral Alternative Education Provision Outcomes of the Review: Autumn 2015

Jan Levenson

‘It is important to note that many children who are referred to PRUs and AP come from the most deprived backgrounds. They often come from chaotic homes in which problems such as drinking, drug-taking, mental health issues, domestic violence and family breakdown are common. These children are often stuck in complex patterns of negative, self-destructive behaviour and helping them is not easy or formulaic. Many also have developed mental health issues. To break down these patterns they need the time, effort, commitment and expertise of dedicated professionals working in well-organised, well-resourced and responsive systems.’

‘Improving Alternative Provision’ by Charlie Taylor, Government Adviser on Behaviour DfE, 2012

Review findings:

Provision in 'silos'; lack of coordination, provision mapping, sharing of best practice, ensuring that all students' needs/interests can be met through a high quality local offer

Student attendance and wider safeguarding concerns

Geographical spread

Equality of opportunity

Lack of agreed protocols for information/ data sharing

Review findings cont'd

The need for good quality progression routes for students accessing AE

Variation in the cost of provision, and expectations of providers concerning payment arrangements

Concern for the needs of students at KS2 and KS3

Wirral Alternative Education:
Moving forward through the implementation of an
improved strategy

The establishment of a Wirral Guild of Alternative Education

The Wirral Guild of Alternative Education

Vision Statement

**“To operate as a Guild to ensure that young people
have access to high quality education and learning
opportunities within Alternative Education on Wirral”**

► **From September 2016, The Guild will:**

Adopt a common referral protocol from schools to providers, including the implementation of a single agreed application form to ensure improved information sharing

Facilitate the effective use of the new Wirral Alternative Education Portal in order to utilise new technologies to track students' attendance, progress and behaviour whilst educated through alternative pathways

Participate in robust procedures for monitoring safeguarding arrangements, policies and procedures through compliance with a newly established Section 175 Safeguarding Audit

Be held to account through a new Quality Assurance model, with regular monitoring visits in order to both capture and share best practice and ensure that all providers continue to offer high quality placements

Ensure that each placement has explicit timescales for intervention and review, including reintegration where appropriate

Work together to further develop programmes and interventions for students at Key Stages 2 and 3

Work together to improve transition programmes for students in KS2, KS3 and KS5, particularly for those at risk of becoming NEET

Work in consultation with Headteachers and the LA to continue to develop the breadth and quality of the local offer of Alternative Education

And Finally...

‘The existence of good quality AP in any one area is usually more a matter of luck than of any systematic planning by schools, PRUs or LAs.’

Charlie Taylor

Can we in Wirral change that?

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WIRRAL COUNCIL

WIRRAL SCHOOLS FORUM 6th July 2016

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Contingency and Special Staff Costs

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report summarises the current provision made for contingency and special staff costs for Wirral's maintained nursery, primary, secondary and special schools.

2. School Specific Contingencies

This budget is used for exceptional and unforeseen costs that it would be unreasonable for schools and governing bodies to meet. Such cost can vary each year but have included

- Rates adjustments, where actual charges differ from amounts estimated.
- Support for schools in Key Stage 1 where a larger than usual reception class (above the published admission numbers) requires additional staff.
- Support towards costs of back dated Teacher Pension arrears in specific cases.
- In exceptional cases deficits arising from closing schools.
- Support for vulnerable pupils.

For secondary and primary maintained schools this budget was de-delegated as agreed at the January 2016 Forum. All special schools have agreed to buyback this service. The budget for 2016-17 is:-

Primary Schools	£90,200
Secondary Schools	£14,100
Special Schools	<u>£167,000</u>
Gross budget	£271,300

3. Special Staff costs

This budget makes provision for staff maternity, paternity and trade union facility time for both teaching and non-teaching staff. It may also in certain circumstances meet additional costs arising from staff suspensions.

Maternity costs make up approximately 90% of the overall spend. The cost of the member of staff on maternity is held centrally for the period away from school, whilst the school meets the costs of any supply required. Costs can vary greatly from year to year in 2015-16 it was £707k and in the previous year £624k.

This budget also meets paternity costs and will reimburse the cost of the supply cover for the statutory 2 weeks of paternity leave allowed.

Trade Union Facilities time has only been de-delegated by primary schools. This budget covers the statutory TU support for teachers and support staff that schools are required to provide. There is a separate SLA for the secondary schools.

Primary Schools	- maternity, paternity	£491,600
	- TU Facility time	£76,800
Secondary Schools	- maternity, paternity	£131,300
Special Schools	- maternity, paternity	£50,000
	- TU facility time	<u>£3,000</u>
Budget		£752,700

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Forum notes the report

Julia Hassall
Director of Children's Services

WIRRAL COUNCIL

SCHOOLS FORUM – 6th July 2016

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

School PFI costs – Working party update and proposed consultation

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- . This report summarises the recent discussions at the Forum's Schools Formula Working group regarding the current 9 school PFI agreement. The report proposes a consultation with schools and providers with a view to introducing a new element for these PFI costs within the Schools Funding Formula.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- . Previous Forum reports have summarised the position with regard to the existing Wirral Schools PFI project agreement, signed by the Council, school governing bodies, and the PFI contractor in respect of the rebuild / refurbishment and facilities management of nine Wirral schools:

Leasowe Primary
Bebington High
Birkenhead Park School
South Wirral High
Weatherhead High
Hilbre High
Prenton High
Kingsway Academy
Wirral Grammar Girls

In addition the contract supports two City Learning Centres. The contract is for 27 years and will expire in July 2031.

Separate PFI agreements have also been agreed for Bedford Drive Primary and Ridgeway High School. However these sit outside the 9 school project and are not the subject of this report or proposed consultation.

3.0 PFI COSTS

The budgeted PFI costs for 2016-17 are:

	£m
Contract Payments of	12.3
Funded by:	
PFI grant	5.5
Individual school contributions	3.9
Schools Budget (central)	2.3
Council Contribution	0.6
Total	12.3

The PFI Government grant is fixed for the duration of the contract, whereas other costs and income sources increase by the Retail Prices Index (less 10%) annually. FM costs are subject to periodic review and benchmarking, following

which the amount paid may be amended. This first benchmarking exercise, completed last year, has increased the overall FM amounts paid by schools by £0.8m.

As part of the current consultation on a National Funding Formula, the DfE are encouraging local authorities and schools to fully delegate PFI costs which will then enable amounts to be reflected in the new formula allocations. Many authorities have already delegated costs for PFI and the PFI Affordability Gap; some however, including Wirral, have not.

4.0 Working Group Meeting 21st June

This was a well-attended meeting with a range of Forum representatives (L. Ayling, E. Cogan, K. Podmore, B. Jordan, A. Whitely, J. Billinge, P. Young, A. Donelan, L. Hazeldene, L. Ireland.)

The agenda discussed:

- The work undertaken to examine how PFI and non-PFI school costs compared
- The PFI Affordability Gap
- How areas in respect of PFI can be reflected in the school funding formula
- The implications of any changes for schools and providers.
-

Comparison of PFI and Non PFI costs

The comparison followed discussions with schools following the completion of PFI benchmarking and comments that:

1. Costs of FM are now far higher than in other schools.
2. Or an alternative view that benchmarking was to catch up with the rates paid elsewhere by other schools.
3. PFI school FM costs have a different basis to other schools; in that they are less flexible and harder to reduce. As a result PFI schools must commit an increasing proportion of their school budget at the expense of other areas.

COMPARISON OF COSTS FOR WIRRAL SECONDARY PFI AND NON-PFI SCHOOLS

	Average 3 PFI Schools	Average 3 non PFI Schools	Services More / (less)	Total per sq M	Total across all PFI Schools
Gross Internal Floor Area	31,820	32,218			
	£	£	£	£	£
Services					
Building Maintenance	4.09	6.92	(2.84)		
Other Occupancy	0.30	0.33	(0.03)		
Cleaning, Caretaking	23.66	19.35	4.30		
Utilities	11.84	13.16	(1.32)		
Minibuses	0.63	0.63	(0.00)		
Insurances	2.25	2.25	<u>0.00</u>	0.11	9,588
FM Management	2.00			2.00	168,795
Overhead & Profit	3.87		3.87		
SPV FM Risk Margin	1.00		<u>1.00</u>	4.87	411,723
TOTAL COST PER m2	49.63	42.64		6.98	590,105

The comments of members in the working party were varied and indicated a range of views:

- Higher costs in PFI schools reflect a higher standard of maintenance in schools
- Non PFI schools do not benefit from the same standard of maintenance and need to ring-fence budgets to enable repairs to be undertaken.
- The increases for PFI are excessive, tied to inflation and are inflexible.
- Non PFI school costs for FM have increased as a result of pay awards, national insurance and pension changes. These have exceeded inflation. The National Minimum Wage and the Apprentice Levy will increase costs further in the future.
- General agreement that some PFI costs were unique – amounts paid for risk or profits.
- PFI schools do not need the same level of FM management as non PFI schools – ie they do not need to survey, place orders, oversee contracts and process payments.
- The comments made by PFI schools however were that the management and supervision required is greater, there are complex, time consuming negotiations and detailed supervision of work.
- No alternatives to the calculation based on square metres were suggested. The use of pupil numbers was not supported as it was felt this would disadvantage those schools with surplus capacity.

The implications of making formula changes for PFI costs on other schools and providers.

With regard to funding additional PFI costs the consensus of the working party was that all schools and pupils are being disadvantaged by the PFI contract, its lengthy commitments and increasing costs. Members felt the serious affordability issues should continue to be raised nationally with the Department for Education to promote a wider discussion. Until there is some other resolution to this issue however members agreed there is a collegiate responsibility. This is not a secondary school problem or a secondary v primary school issue. Members expressed the view that the costs of finding a solution within Wirral should fall across all Education provision, noting that this would be particularly challenging at a time when all education sectors are under severe pressure.

PFI Affordability Gap and reflecting costs within the funding formula

The PFI Affordability Gap is the difference between the cost of PFI and the funding from PFI Grant and school contributions.

PFI \contract Cost	£12.3m
Less	
PFI Grant	£5.5m
School Contributions	£3.9m
PFI Affordability Gap	£2.9m

The “Gap” is funded centrally in the Schools Budget, part by the Council and part by DSG. However it is possible to have a specific funding element within the formula to cover PFI costs and the delegation of the Affordability Gap. This is a

permitted element in the formula and is thought likely to continue as part of the National Formula

Member comments were:

- The Affordability Gap does not need to be delegated to schools. Whilst this is true, the delegation of costs is being encouraged by the Education Funding Agency, both to aid transparency and ensure that all school funding received within the LA is passed to schools. (The initial papers from the DfE earlier in the year indicated that all school block funding must be delegated).
- The funding provided to schools for PFI may change or not be sufficient in later years. However the affordability gap is and must continue to be fully funded in order to meet contractual commitments. As such it will be clearly specified amount within the delegated budget.

Proposed Consultation questions

1. Does the evidence suggest that PFI school costs for the 9 school project agreement are greater than non PFI school costs for:
 - Facilities Management Yes / No
 - FM management Yes / No
 - Profit / Risk Yes / No
2. Do these differences and their impact on specific schools suggest that funding should be increased? Yes / No
3. The comparisons are based on building sizes. Should this be the basis if costs are to be reallocated?
4. If funding for PFI schools should be increased do you agree that there is a collegiate responsibility for these costs? Should
 - a. all education sectors, including Early Years and High Needs be top sliced?
 - b. Primary and Secondary school sectors only?
 - c. Do you have another proposal?
5. Should the PFI Affordability Gap be delegated to schools in the light of guidance from the EFA?

Timescale

If agreed, this consultation would be issued to all schools and providers immediately and would run for 10 weeks. The final date for responses would be 21st September. A final decision on this issue would be taken at the Forum's next meeting, in time for inclusion in the school formula submission to the EFA in October if required.

Recommendations

That the Forum:

- Notes the comments made by the Working Party
- Approves the consultation and questions to schools and providers
- Makes a final decision on this matter at its next meeting in September.

Julia Hassall
Director of Children's Services

WIRRAL COUNCIL

WIRRAL SCHOOLS FORUM 6th JULY 2016

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Delegated School Balances as at 31st March 2016 Indicative Balances for 2016-17 and 2017-18

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report advises the Forum of the level of school balances as at 31st March 2016, together with an indication of balances for the financial years 2016-17 and 2017-18.

1. School Balances

School balances at 31st March 2016 are £11.7m. This represents an increase of £1.2m.

	2014/15 Balances	2015/16 Balances	Movement	Change
Nursery	£676,607	£604,737	£71,870	Reduction
Primary	£6,268,671	£7,410,417	£1,141,746	Increase
Secondary	£2,208,899	£1,606,472	-£602,427	Reduction
Special	£1,570,256	£2,116,885	£546,629	Increase
Total	£10,724,433	£11,738,511	£1,157,818	

The average school balance for a primary has increased to £84,209 compared to £71,235 in 2014-15. Secondary schools' average balance has reduced from £368,150 to £267,745. There were no academy conversions in the 2015-16 financial year.

The actual balances as at 31st March 2016 have improved since the last report from an estimated £9.6m (period 9) to £11.7m at year end. Headteachers and governing bodies have worked hard, with the support of LMS and HR to reduce deficits and their spend plans in year.

2. Deficit Budgets

There were 12 primary schools with a deficit balance as at 31st March 2016, 4 of which were licenced. 2 secondary schools had a deficit at the end of the year, of which one was licenced. The average deficit is £41,362. There have been no additional requests in 2016-17 to date.

3. Monitoring School Balances 2016-17 and 2017-18

Schools must set their budgets by 30th June. 55 out of 109 budgets have been finalised at the point of writing this report. So far, from budgets returned this indicates that at the end of March 2017 balances will be £3.8m, reducing to £1.7m in

March 2018. There are 21 schools with provisional deficits in 2017-18 (40% of those returned).

There are continuing difficulties for schools over the medium term. Whilst the current year position has improved compared to 12 months ago, the latest position for 2017-18 indicates that this may be short term.

4. Workforce Reductions

To ensure school budgets continue to be robust going forward there have been 16 schools that have made decisions to reduce staffing levels through redundancy measures. There have been 7 full time and 9 part time teachers and 17 full time and 63 part time support staff affected by this.

5. Future Actions

The position will continue to be monitored and reported to schools forum regularly.

Work will:-

- Examine schools financial plans to ensure they are sustainable.
- Discuss with schools plans to deal with projected deficits.
- Schools requesting a licenced deficit will be required to demonstrate how the budget will come back into balance within 3 years.
- Where agreement cannot be reached a notice of concern may be issued, which will require an immediate action plan agreed by governors.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Forum notes the report.
2. That schools balances continue to be monitored.

Julia Hassall
Director of Children's Services

WIRRAL COUNCIL

SCHOOLS FORUM – 6th JULY 2016

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

SCHOOLS BUDGET OUTTURN REPORT 2015-16

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to outline the year end position for the 2015/16 Schools Budget. At this time the accounts are provisional and are subject to Audit.

2.0 ANTICIPATED BUDGET VARIATIONS

- 2.1 The Schools Budget outturn is shown in Appendix 1. As previously reported this shows a balanced budget position achieved through a contribution from reserves of £179,600. This amount is in addition to the reserves of £894,900 agreed as part of the Schools Budget in January 2015. The updated variations between budget and actual expenditure are listed below:

2.2 Individual Schools Budget

There were no Academy conversions this year and no variation to the overall Individual Schools Budget.

2.3 Early Years - £1.2m under spend

There was a £1.2m underspend against the budget of £15.7m which was mainly in relation to the take up for 2 year olds as take up was below the level anticipated. The Dedicated Schools Grant received for Early Years is also reduced as a result of this.

£130,500 has been carried forward from the Early Years Pupil Premium Grant to fund development costs of the new portal and to improve take up of the 2 year old offer.

2.4 School Closure / retirement costs - £0.05m under spend

The enhanced pension costs arising from previous school closures were £75,000 resulting in an under spend of £51,000.

2.5 School Licences - £0.04m under spend

The cost of licences were £218,000 resulting in an under spend of £36,000.

2.6 Schools Forum

There was a contribution of £10,000 to fund the Free School Meals opt out work undertaken by the Benefits Team in the Finance Department.

2.7 School Library Service - £0.01m under spend

Reduced premises costs resulted in a slight under spend in this area.

2.8 School Specific Contingency - £0.05m over spend

The allocation of how the Contingency budget was spent is summarised below:

	Budget £	Out-turn £	Variation £
<u>Primary and Secondary Schools</u>			
Vulnerable children managed moves and additional support		52,200	
KS1 Bulge class		36,000	
Rates adjustments including former Childrens Centres		43,000	
Pension costs		(20,000)	
Other budget support		1,300	
<u>Special Schools</u>			
Support for additional school places		82,100	
Other Special School budget support		124,100	
Pension costs		(2,600)	
Special School buyback		(154,800)	
Total	104,300	161,300	57,000

2.9 Special Staff Costs - £0.1m over spend

Maternity costs in Primary and Secondary schools were higher than expected as shown in the table below:

	Budget £	Out-turn £	Variation £
Maternity, Paternity and Other Staff Costs	565,000	677,300	112,300
TU Facilities	95,700	78,400	(17,300)
Insurance and Recharges	6,900	6,900	0
Total	667,600	762,600	95,000

2.10 Behaviour Support - £0.03m under spend

The budget was not fully committed and there was additional income received from Academies.

2.11 Contribution to Combined Budgets

The allocation of the Combined Budgets is summarised below. Overall there was a small underspend of £5,100 in this area.

	Budget £
School Improvement	359,900
Discretionary Rate Relief Top Up	106,600
LCSB contribution	30,000
Governors Forum	2,200
Wellbeing & School Staff Surveys	44,600
PFI Support Team	61,800
LACES	140,500
School Intervention	674,500
City Learning Centres	694,700
Total	2,114,800

2.12 Special Education Needs Statements - £0.15m under spend

Due to the reduction in the number and cost of Primary and Secondary Statements there was an under spend of £147,100.

2.13 Special Education Needs Top Ups - £0.5m over spend

The budget in relation to the Pupil Led Top Up funding in Specialist Provision, Resource Bases, FE, Colleges, and Alternative Provision was £8.9m. The Exceptional Needs budget within this had more requests for additional funding which lead to extra costs of £557,000.

2.14 Independent Special Schools - £0.3m over spend

The budget of £3.4m relating to Independent Special Schools was overspent by £330,000 as there were 96 places at the end of the year. The budget has been increased to £3.7m in 2016/17 to accommodate this.

2.15 High Need Contingency - £0.16m under spend

Not all of the £474,000 High Needs Contingency Budget was allocated. The commitments in this area during the year have included:

- The 90% SEN guarantee for maintained schools
- The costs of the High Needs Minimum Funding Guarantee
- Additional school support

2.16 Support for Special Education Needs - £0.3m under spend

The underspend in this area has been in respect of those budgets held to review, develop and plan SEN provision across Wirral..

2.17 DSG - £170,333,800

The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) budget for 2015/16 was £171,413,300. However adjustments for the Early Years Census in January 2016 indicate that this figure will be adjusted in 2016/17 by £1,079,500 making the total grant receivable to be £170,333,800.

In addition to the grant there was a budgeted contribution from DSG reserves of £894,900.

3. UPDATE ON SPECIFIC RESERVES

- 3.1 The DSG reserves carried forward into 2015/16 were £3.5m and the amounts carried forward into 2016/17 total £2.5m as follows:

Job Evaluation and Pay Harmonisation – Balance at 31/03/16 - £0.65m

DSG Reserve - Balance at 31/03/16 – £1.6m

	£
DSG Carry Forward from 2014/15	2,057,500
Use of Reserve in 2015/16	(1,074,500)
Transfers from other School Budget Reserves	619,200
	1,602,200

Defibrillators Reserve – Balance at 31/03/16 – nil

All schools have been equipped with defibrillators and the remaining balance of £36,000 was spent in 2015/16 on related costs i.e. training.

City Learning Centres – Balance at 31/03/16 - £0.13m

This reserve will be used to meet any final costs relating to the City Learning Centres.

High Needs MFG – Balance at 31/03/16 – nil

This reserve funded the remaining academy MFG costs and was fully committed in 2015/16.

Early Years - 2 Year Old Funding – Balance at 31/03/16 - £0.13m

	£
Balance carried forward from 2014/15	510,000
Transferred to DSG reserve	(510,000)
Balance of EYPP	130 500
	130,500

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 Overall expenditure on Schools activity was £179,600 more than planned mainly due to the pressures within Special Educational Needs as discussed in this report however this was met from existing reserves to deliver a balanced budget.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 That the Forum notes the financial position of the Schools Budget for 2015/16.

Julia Hassall
Director of Children's Services

Appendix 1 – Budget Variations 2015/16

(to the nearest £100)

	Adjusted Budget 2015/16 £	Out-turn 2015/16 £	Variation 2015/16 £
Individual Schools Budget			
Primary Schools	93,028,400	93,028,400	0
Secondary Schools	26,045,600	26,045,600	0
Special Schools	8,733,400	8,733,400	0
SEN Bases	1,616,800	1,616,800	0
Wirral Hospital School	1,352,300	1,352,300	0
Early Years	15,750,000	14,586,800	(1,163,200)
Individual Schools Budget Total	146,526,500	145,363,300	(1,163,200)
Central School Costs			
Early Years	378,700	357,700	(21,000)
Admissions	341,800	345,500	3,700
School Closure / retirement costs	126,000	74,800	(51,200)
Licences and Subscriptions	254,000	217,600	(36,400)
Schools Forum	10,600	10,000	(600)
Contribution to Combined Budgets	2,114,800	2,109,700	(5,100)
PPM	249,000	249,000	0
PFI affordability gap	2,736,500	2,736,500	0
Costs delegated to schools			
Library Service	191,700	182,800	(8,900)
Insurances	32,300	28,700	(3,600)
Minority Ethnic Achievement Service	244,600	243,200	(1,400)
School Specific Contingencies	104,300	161,300	57,000
Special Staff Costs	667,600	762,600	95,000
School Meals	13,600	13,600	0
Behaviour Support	92,200	65,600	(26,600)
High Needs Pupils			
Statements	4,008,000	3,860,900	(147,100)
SEN Top Ups	8,384,900	8,942,000	557,100
High Needs Contingency	474,000	310,100	(163,900)
Independent Special Schools	3,395,000	3,725,000	330,000
Home Tuition	308,900	291,800	(17,100)
Support for SEN	2,031,500	1,734,900	(296,600)
Special School Transport	58,200	58,200	0
Non Delegated School Costs Total	26,218,200	26,481,500	263,300
Total School and Central Costs	172,744,700	171,844,800	(899,900)
Dedicated Schools Grant	(171,413,300)	(170,333,800)	1,079,500
Use of Reserves	(894,900)	(1,074,500)	(179,600)
Grand Total	436,500	436,500	0

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WIRRAL COUNCIL

SCHOOLS FORUM – 6th JULY 2016

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

SCHOOLS BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2016/17

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Forum with a regular update on the anticipated spend within the Schools Budget for 2016/17. At this time there are no specific variations reported.

2.0 ANTICIPATED BUDGET VARIATIONS

- 2.1 The table attached summarises the Schools Budget. Comments on specific budget areas are set out below.

2.2 Early Years Grant

The Early Years budget of £14.6m reflects the funding required for 2, 3 and 4 year olds who are entitled to receive free Early Education and Early Years Pupil Premium. It is based on the January 2016 census. It is expected at this stage that this budget will be fully committed in year. Separately there is also £130,500 that was carried forward from 2015/16 to fund developments in the Early Years portal and to improve take up of the 2 year old offer.

2.3 Contribution to Combined Budgets

A breakdown of the combined budget is shown below:

	Budget £
School Improvement	359,900
Discretionary Rate Relief Top Up	106,600
LCSB contribution	30,000
Governors Forum	2,200
Wellbeing & School Staff Surveys (5/12)	18,600
PFI Support Team	61,800
LACES	140,500
School Intervention	674,500
City Learning Centres (5/12)	196,500
CLC PFI	108,200
Total	1,698,800

It is anticipated that these budgets will be fully committed. The provision in future years is uncertain and will be determined alongside the new National Funding Formula for schools.

2.4 School Specific Contingencies

There is a contingency budget of £190,300 to take into account any specific costs that need to be met. The purposes for the contingency budget is described elsewhere on this agenda.

2.5 Special Staff Costs

The budget of £699,700 is broken down below:

	£
Maternity, Paternity & Other Staff Costs	614,400
TU Facilities	78,400
Insurance & Recharges	6,900
Total	699,700

2.6 Special Education Needs Top Ups

A budget of £8.8m funds the Pupil Led Top Up funding in Specialist Provision, Resource Bases, FE, Colleges and Alternative Provision. The Summer Term census figures are not yet available so at this time there are no variations to report.

The budget is made up as follows:	£
Top ups for Maintained special schools	6,406,300
Top ups for Resourced provision	602,000
Alternative provision	243,800
FE and 6 th Form top ups	728,000
Additional Nursing support	127,100
Exceptional Needs	645,000
Total	8,752,200

2.7 Independent Special Schools

The budget in this area has increased to reflect demand and it is expected that the full £3.7m budget will be spent. There are currently 93 places for young people with complex needs in Independent Special Schools.

2.8 Special Education Needs Statements

The budget has increased in this area to £3.8m. The numbers fluctuate during the year and will continue to be monitored.

2.9 DSG - £172,629,000

The revised Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) 2016/17 will be published in July and will confirm the allocation to Wirral.

The budget also includes £568,900 of DSG carried forward from 2015/16.

3.0 UPDATE ON SPECIFIC RESERVES

3.1 The final figure of DSG reserves carried forward into 2016/17 was £2.5 as follows:

Job Evaluation and Pay Harmonisation Reserve - £0.65m

DSG Reserve - £1.0m

	£
DSG Carry Forward from 2015/16	1,602,200
Use of Reserve in 2016/17	(568,900)
	1,033,300

City Learning Centres - £0.12m

This reserve will be used to help meet any final closure costs relating to the City Learning Centres.

Early Years £0.1m

There is a balance in reserve of £130,500 to continue to develop the Early Years Portal and expand the 2 year old provision.

4.0 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The Schools Budget will continue to be monitored and reported throughout the year.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 That the Forum notes the report.

Julia Hassall
Director of Children's Services

Appendix 1 – Budget Variations 2016/17

	Adjusted Budget 2016/17 £
Individual Schools Budget	
Primary Schools	93,463,700
Secondary Schools	27,081,100
Special Schools	8,861,700
SEN Bases	1,701,500
Wirral Hospital School	1,356,300
Early Years	14,557,600
Individual Schools Budget Total	147,021,900
Central School Costs	
Early Years	378,700
Admissions	341,800
School Closure / retirement costs	86,000
Licences & Subscriptions	223,800
Schools Forum	10,600
Contribution to Combined Budgets	1,698,800
PPM	249,000
PFI affordability gap	2,886,500
Costs De-Delegated from schools	
Library Service	191,700
Insurances	32,300
MEAS	104,100
School Specific Contingencies	104,300
Special Staff Costs	699,700
Milk & Meals	21,200
Behaviour Support	92,300
High Needs Pupils	
Statements	3,799,000
SEN Top Ups	8,752,200
High Needs Contingency	434,000
Independent Special Schools	3,689,000
Home Tuition	308,900
Support for SEN	2,031,500
Special School Transport	58,200
Non Delegated School Costs	26,193,600
Dedicated Schools Grant	(172,060,100)
Use of Reserves	(568,900)
Grand Total	586,500

WIRRAL COUNCIL

WIRRAL SCHOOLS FORUM 6th July 2016

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Working Groups and Membership

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report identifies the members on the working groups and their current remit.

2. Early Years Working Group

The remit of the early years working group is to support the implementation of the 30 hour offer, the uptake of the Early Years Pupil Premium, the expansion of the 2 year old provision and the introduction of a national funding formula or any local funding formula changes.

Members

Simon Davies (PVI rep)
Nicky Prance (PVI rep)
Lynn Ireland (Primary governor rep)
Michael Forber (Nursery rep)
Carol Fenlon (Early Years Senior Manager)
Sarah Harper (Early Years support)
Penny Bishop (Pre School Service)
Andrew Roberts (Finance)

3. High Needs Working Group

The High needs group remit is to review the progress of work in the following areas:-

- High Needs Funding Formula
- Arrangements for high needs support in mainstream schools
- SEN funding in Early Years
- Exceptional needs

Members

Ken Frost (Primary Governor rep)
Deborah Marchant (Primary Headteacher rep)
Andre Baird (Special headteacher rep)
Margaret Morris (SEN lead)
Andrew Roberts (Finance)

4. Funding Formula Working Group

This group will review the Schools Funding Formula and any changes to be introduced through the National Funding Formula.

Membership to be agreed

Julia Hassall
Director of Children's Services

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**WIRRAL SCHOOLS FORUM – 6th July 2016
WORK PLAN**

Meeting Date	Wed 28 th September 2016	Wed 18 th January 2017	Wed 26 th April 2017	Wed 5 th July 2017
	Elect chair & vice chair			
Budget	Budget monitoring Update on School Balances	Schools Budget 2017-18 Budget monitoring De-delegation of budgets Update on School Balances	Schools Budget update 2017-18 Schools Budget provisional outturn Update on School Balances	Schools Budget Outturn 2016-17 School Balances and Reserves School Budget Monitoring
Consultation	National Funding Formula for Schools, High Needs and Early Years Local Formula Changes			National Funding Formula for Schools, High Needs and Early Years
DfE Regs & guidelines	Scheme for Financing Schools	School Finance Regulations		
Working Groups	School Formula High Needs Early Years	School Formula High Needs Early Years	School Formula High Needs Early Years	School Formula High Needs Early Years
Other	Membership Combined budgets PPM and PFI budgets Other central budgets High needs places Traded services Behaviour Support Free School Meal Eligibility	School Contracts	School Admissions Early Years Traded services Arrangements for High Needs /SEND Arrangements for Alternative Provision	De-delegated services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contingency • Special Staff Costs • Library Service • Insurance • FSM eligibility • Behaviour Support UIFSM's Arrangements for Alternative Provision School place planning

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