

Meeting title	SCHOOLS FORUM
Date	Tuesday 16 th November 2021 – via Teams
Forum Members Present	Jo Marsh (Chair), Jo Stoling, Dawn Sage, Louise malik, Collen Collett, Claire Crowther
Forum Members Not Present	Alun Williams, Steven Mackay, Charlotte Lucas
Observers	
Officers Present	Cllr Dine Romero, Richard Morgan, Chris Wilford, Justine Kill (notes)
Officers Not Present	Rosemary Collard, Mary Kearney-Knowles
Distribution	As above
Next meeting	7 th December 2021

ACTION

1.	Apologies Received	
	The following apologies were received: Kevin Burnett, Roz Lambert, Alun Williams, Mary Kearney-Knowles	
2.	Declarations of Interest	
	All attendees were asked to complete a Declaration of Interest Form and send to Justine Kill. No conflict interest declared.	
3.	Minutes of the last meeting 28th September 2021	
	The Chair went through the minutes page by page. Minutes were agreed. <u>Matters Arising</u> JM letter to new minister regarding Early Years will be completed by the next meeting, if members have any points they want included please email. Still outstanding JM has sent a letter of condolence to Bath & Wells Multi Academy Trust. SEND review outcome from the DfE to be added to the agenda as soon as it is received.	JM

4.	National Funding Formula 22-23, consultation purpose (x 2 docs)	
	<p>Following the 2022-2023 B&NES Schools Funding Consultation – Autumn 2021 with mainstream schools that was completed on 4th November 2021, the forum was asked to comment on schools’ responses and to decide on planned actions for 2022-2023</p> <p>RM pointed out that in relation to the consultation, there was a minor error whereby a specific question wasn’t asked on the local factor of split schools.</p> <p>The Forum was asked to comment on responses to the consultation and recommend to the cabinet member the preference the Forum would like to take with regards to the details of the formula.</p> <p>Local Split Site factor</p> <p>Issue of split site schools, should we have asked these schools? Local factor affects 5 schools on factor value. The intention was to increase the factor value by the same as the NFF by 3% or scale back the factor values if resources aren’t available. Schools consultation omitted the question on this issue</p> <p>LM asked if, as a way forward, are we required to consult schools? CC asked if split site schools have raised any issues? RM said they haven’t raised any issues. RM is confident split schools will adapt this mechanism. DR said is it an onerous task to contact all schools re the funding, or would it just be the 5? RM explained that all schools would have to be consulted as giving to one, is taking from another. DR said we need a sound argument just in case we are questioned about the consultation. RM explained that if we follow the same strategy as the NFF, the result would be the same as if the consultation question was asked again.</p> <p>The Forum were 100% in agreement to the recommendation, to increase the factor by the same percentage as other factors in the NFF.</p> <p>Recommendation from the Forum to DR cabinet member to follow this course of action.</p> <p>Schools block to High Needs block, 100% response to continue with the contribution.</p> <p>Vote – schools fed back that they would like to proceed with the percentage contribution.</p> <p>JM – in terms of general feedback, as a Forum, is there anything where general comments have been made by schools? RM – all comments are in the appendix available to DR.</p>	

5.	Early Help proposal re supporting pupils with medical needs to attend school	
	<p>The Hospital Education Reintegration Service (HERS) are undergoing recommissioning. They are currently commissioned to have 33 places, but finished with 64 places. The LA has a statutory responsibility to help children who are not in education. Medical assessments can prevent them from receiving HERS.</p> <p>The profile of pupils receiving the service has changed; 72% due to anxiety, 20% fatigue and the rest for other needs.</p> <p>As part of the re-commissioning process we have reached out to services across the country.</p> <p>Oxford have done a project looking at key elements to support in home schooling and support reintegration.</p> <p>Particular elements pre the HERS offer, is to have the Early Help offer before young people get to HERS.</p> <p>Northamptonshire and Dudley have an arrangement where they shared with their Forum to agree to buy in services of 8-10 weeks max, looking to keep the YP in home school and take a systemic approach.</p> <p>There is enough funding to match funds for a year. We will run the project and evaluate impact.</p> <p>LM mentioned that a few years ago, the LA used to have to pay for hospital education via the DfE.</p> <p>JM asked if the re-commissioning of HERS has been explored with schools and if there is an interest in this service? What is the Forums role in this?</p> <p>RM explained that as it's a commission that will have to exist, it will have to come to the Forum to develop the project and proposal.</p> <p>DS said it would be useful to know if there is any overlap in services?</p> <p>DS suggested to talk with Caroline Dalton who attends overview panels to get her opinion.</p> <p>OD is in discussion with Caroline. The Student Family Support service is similar; skill sets and cohorts would be different and not duplication of services.</p> <p>JS said this is a project that is needed. Numbers are high and there are children on behaviour panels who can be linked in with HERS.</p> <p>DS thinks that 8-10 weeks doesn't seem very long.</p> <p>OD challenged this with Dudley. They experimented with different timescales and projects to see which offers will work.</p>	
6.	AOB	
	<p>RM – next meeting is scheduled for 7th December. There is a concern that the DfE won't have issued enough information before this date, so this meeting maybe postponed. RM will make a decision on postponing by 30th November. If the meeting does go ahead, it will be virtual not in person.</p> <p>The meeting on the 20th January might be a tight timeframe for issuing data to the DfE for their budget deadline.</p>	
10	Date of next meeting	
	Tuesday 7 th December 2021.	