

Schools Forum Meeting on 16 September 2021

Action Sheet

TOPIC	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	OUTCOME
Actions from 7 June 2021 meeting	Following the publication of the SEND review and ahead of the publication of the High Needs consultation a Schools Forum working group session to take place to assess the implications of the SEND review and any impacts on the local funding models; and consider the existing High Needs funding formula and identify the right proxy measures that could underpin the funding formula.	Head of Education Strategy and Development/Clerk to the Schools Forum	Working group was setup and met on the 20 th October – notes are included with the papers and next steps discussed in the High Needs report.
School Funding 2022/23	(a) Growth Fund – Officers to look into how to increase transparency and consultation with schools regarding the allocation of funding to meet the need for additional places, particularly how an area as a whole caters for the need. Forum members to be provided with information on how the process operates and how the funding is allocated.	Head of Education Strategy and Development	<p>Consideration of the need to provide additional places is based on planning ahead using the latest forecast information. The Universal Commissioning Team receive new pupil forecasts in February each year, updating our information to identify action that may be required to provide additional places to meet basic need in future years.</p> <p>Where it is identified that there will be insufficient places officers will engage with schools in the area affected to discuss the findings and explore how additional capacity might be provided. This will depend on whether the additional places are for a single year intake (a temporary ‘bulge’ class) or whether the need is more permanent, in which case a statutory process will be required to permanently expand the setting. Discussions would also take place as to whether the need could be met through utilising existing accommodation or if a capital project is required to provide the additional space. Capital funding would need to be evidenced and secured</p>

	<p>(b) Webex meeting invitation to be sent to Forum members : Consultation response - Fair Funding for All: Completing our reforms to the National Funding Formula Webinar on 22 September 2021</p>	<p>Clerk to the Schools Forum</p>	<p>through the Children and Families Capital programme using the basic need grant funding the council receives from the DfE. The additional revenue funding for the additional places is allocated in accordance with the Council's New School and Planned Growth Policy (Growth Fund). More recently officers have been attending area Headteacher meetings to provide an overview and discuss the current and future needs to start a dialogue on how we plan for any changes that may be required.</p> <p>New School and Planned Growth Policy is attached.</p> <p>Sent via email on 17.09.21.</p>
<p>High Needs</p>	<p>(a) In recognition of the complexities around the High Needs funding system, and the rising levels of need coupled with a High Needs budget under immense pressure, a workshop to be arranged for Forum members to take an in-depth look at High Needs Funding. Representatives from the ESFA and the DfE to be invited to attend the session.</p> <p>(b) Forum members to be provided with a further breakdown of the budget, to show the cost of special school placements per pupil in the county, and the cost of out of county independent special schools placements per pupil.</p> <p>(c) Forum members to be provided with information on the Home to School Transport costs for children travelling to special schools in the county and independent special schools out of county.</p>	<p>Head of Education Strategy and Development/Clerk to the Schools Forum</p> <p>Head of Education Strategy and Development</p> <p>Head of Education Strategy and Development</p>	<p>Working group was setup and met on the 20th October – notes are included with the papers and next steps discussed in the High Needs report.</p> <p>Included in the High Needs report.</p> <p>Significant changes take place at the start of the Autumn term, so a breakdown of transport costs for SEND will be provided at the meeting in January.</p>

<p>F40 and Covid-19 Update</p>	<p>(a) Schools to receive information on the COVID recovery funding via the HeadsUp bulletin.</p> <p>(b) Schools in Gloucestershire are missing out on Pupil Premium funding due to a change in the way it is being calculated. There is concern that the additional Covid-19 recovery funding being allocated to schools will not cover the loss to their budgets from the change to the Pupil Premium funding. Analysis on the impact of the change in terms of the loss of funding to Gloucestershire's schools, to be compared with the additional funding being received as part of the Covid-19 recovery funding, and raised as an issue at the meeting of the F40 on 20 September 2021.</p>	<p>Head of Education Strategy and Development</p> <p>Head of Education Strategy and Development</p>	<p>Complete – October heads-up</p> <p>Lost income from changes to the pupil premium census date totalled £1,400,370. This is £1,213,190 loss for primary schools and £187,190 for secondary schools.</p> <p>Recovery premium funding for primary and secondary schools totals £2,244,092. This breaks down as £931,047 for secondary schools and £1,313,045 for primary schools. The result is that primary schools are disproportionately impacted by the change in the pupil premium funding which is offsetting the additional funding received for recovery.</p>
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