

Time	4.00 pm	Public Meeting?	YES	Type of meeting	Partnership Boards
Venue	Committee Room 5, Ground Floor - Civic Centre				

Membership

Barry Bond (Chair)	Special School Sector Governor Representative
Ian Browne	Vice Principal Student Success
Debbie Clarke	Non-School Member Early Years (PVI Sector) Representative
Louisa Craig	Academies Sector Representative
Ben Davis	Academies Sector Representative
Jon Dovey	Primary Sector Governor Representative
Raymond Green	Primary Sector Governor Representative
Susan Lacey	Nursery Sector Head Teacher Representative
Lynne Law	Academies Sector Representative
Davis Lewis	Academies Sector Representative
Ian Moore	Academies Sector Representative
Carroll McNally	Non-School Member Diocesan Schools Representative
Jeremy Parkes	Academies Sector Representative
Karen Preston	Academies Sector Representative
Zoe Rollinson	Primary Sector Head Teacher Representative
Stephen Smith	Primary Sector Governor Representative
Graham Tate	Academies Sector Representative
Arthur Thompson	PRU Sector Head Teacher Representative
Lisa Thompson	Headteacher - St. Andrew's CE Primary School
Lucia Jayne Turner	Nursery Sector Governor Representative
Matthew Welton	Primary Sector Head Teacher Representative
Sarah Whittington	Special School Sector Head Teacher Representative
Phil Williams	Academies Sector Representative

In Attendance

James Barlow	Senior Accounting Officer
Debra Boniface	Finance Manager
Helen McGourlay	Finance Business Partner
Councillor Lynne Moran	Cabinet Member for Education and Skills
Claire Nye	Director of Finance
Meredith Teasdale	Director of Education

Information

If you have any queries about this meeting, please contact the Democratic Services team:

Contact Shelley Humphries
Tel/Email 01902 554070 shelly.humphries@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Agenda

PART 1 – Items open to all attendees

- | <i>Item No.</i> | <i>Title</i> |
|-----------------|--|
| 1 | Welcome and Introductions |
| 2 | Apologies |
| 3 | Declaration of Interest or Confidentiality |
| 4 | Minutes of the Previous Meeting - to be approved (Pages 1 - 6) |
| 5 | Schools' Forum Membership 2018 - 2019 (Pages 7 - 10)
[To receive an update on current Schools' Forum Membership] |

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION OR DECISION

- | | |
|----|--|
| 6 | Schools' Forum - Forward plan 2018 - 2019 (Pages 11 - 12)
[To comment and consider items listed on the Forward Plan] |
| 7 | Growth Fund Update 2018 - 2019 (Pages 13 - 20)
[To update Schools' Forum on the deployment of the Growth Fund to date] |
| 8 | Scheme for Financing Schools (Pages 21 - 24)
[To update Schools' Forum on proposed amendments to the Local Scheme] |
| 9 | Feedback from High Needs Sub-Group and High Needs Funding Formula
[To receive feedback from the Chair of the High Needs Sub-Group and an update on the High Needs Funding Formula – to follow] |
| 10 | 2019 - 2020 Consultation on Schools' Funding Formula (Pages 25 - 32)
[To receive feedback following the Consultation on implementation of the National Funding Formula] |
| 11 | Dates for future meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 17 January 2019• 25 February 2019• 04 July 2019 |
| 12 | Any Other Business |

- 13 **Exclusion of press and public**
[To pass the following resolution:

That in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business as they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information on the grounds shown below.]

PART 2 - EXEMPT ITEMS, CLOSED TO PRESS AND PUBLIC

- | | | | |
|----|--|---|--------|
| 14 | <p>2019 - 2020 High Needs Place Commissioning (Pages 33 - 70)
[To receive the report on High Needs Place Commissioning and processes]</p> | <p>Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual; Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office holders under, the authority.</p> | (1, 4) |
|----|--|---|--------|

This page is intentionally left blank

<p>CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL</p>	<h2 style="margin: 0;">Schools' Forum</h2> <h3 style="margin: 0;">Minutes - 4 October 2018</h3>
---	---

Attendance

Members of the Schools' Forum

Barry Bond (Chair)	Special School Sector Governor Representative
Raymond Green	Primary Sector Governor Representative
Susan Lacey	Nursery Sector Head Teacher Representative
Carol McNally	Diocesan Schools Representative
Zoe Rollinson	Primary Sector Representative
Stephen Smith	Primary Sector Governor Representative
Graham Tate	Academies Sector Representative
Arthur Thompson	PRU Sector Head Teacher Representative
Lisa Thompson	Headteacher - St. Andrew's CE Primary School
Matthew Welton	Primary Sector Head Teacher Representative
Sarah Whittington	Special School Sector Head Teacher Representative
Trisha James	Primary Sector Substitute Representative

In Attendance

Councillor Lynne Moran	Cabinet Member for Education and Skills
James Barlow	Finance Business Partner
Debra Boniface	Finance Manager
Bill Hague	Head of School Organisation
Steven Hurdley	Finance Officer
Adrian Leach	Head of Special Educational Needs and Disability
Amanda Newbold	Head of School Improvement
Claire Nye	Director of Finance
Rebecca Pearch	Graduate Management Trainee
Meredith Teasdale	Director of Education
Shelley Humphries	Democratic Services Officer

Part 1 – items open to the press and public

- | <i>Item No.</i> | <i>Title</i> |
|-----------------|--|
| 1 | <p>Welcome and Introductions
The Democratic Services Officer opened the meeting and there were round table introductions.</p> |
| 2 | <p>Apologies
Apologies were received from Jeremy Parkes, Jon Dovey and Amarjit Cheema.</p> |

3 **Declaration of Interest or Confidentiality**

There were no declarations of interest or confidentiality.

9 **Minutes of the Previous Meeting - to be approved**

Before the meeting proceeded, the Forum were advised of member resignation confirmations and invited to elect a new Chair and Vice Chair of Schools' Forum.

Following nominations and elections, it was agreed that Mr Barry Bond and Mr Stephen Smith be elected as Chair and Vice Chair respectively. All Forum members agreed to these elections.

Following the election of the Chair and Vice-Chair, the minutes were agreed as a correct record, subject to an amendment to the wording of Minute 11 in relation to Northern House.

It was agreed that Adrian Leach, Head of Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) present the briefing note on the Update on Clawed Back Balances at this point. The briefing note informed Schools' Forum on the allocation of Arbitration Panel underspends and asked the Forum to support the use of the funding to ensure pupils with special educational needs remained within local provision. He advised the Forum that this money offered the opportunity to complete work this year rather than having to wait for next year.

Resolved:

1. That Barry Bond and Stephen Smith continue as Chair and Vice Chair respectively.
2. That the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 5 July 2018, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair subject to the amendment of the closing line in Minute 11 to read as '...it was considered an Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) issue rather than a Schools' Forum issue.'
3. That the Forum support the use of the Arbitration Panel underspend monies to ensure pupils with special educational needs remained within local provision.

6 **Forum Constitution and Membership Update**

The Chair presented the revised Schools' Forum Constitution and highlighted the updated membership breakdown figures. He advised that the changes made were based on pupil numbers.

When compared with guidance from the Department for Education (DfE), it was noted that the content of the Constitution showed good practice was already being followed, therefore no further alterations had been made.

There had been an increase in Academy membership and there was a call for nominations being co-ordinated by ConnectEd. It was clarified that academies were able to appoint anyone as a representative as long as they had been nominated by the Academy Sector.

The revised Membership of the Forum was discussed and copies of the current appointments and remaining vacancies were circulated. It was noted that Alberto Otero wished to continue as a member for another term. It was requested that the

revised membership list be emailed to Forum members.

Resolved:

1. That the refreshed Schools' Forum Constitution be noted and endorsed.
2. That a copy of the Schools' Forum Membership be forwarded to Forum members.

7 **Devolved Formula Capital Balances**

Debra Boniface, Finance Manager presented the report on Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) Balances and highlighted key points. The report informed the Forum that each school received an allocation of funding driven by a formula. Information on the balances still held by schools as at August 2018 was contained within the report and the new requirement that schools report on their underspends was explained.

In addition to the information contained within the report, the following points were raised:

- It was highlighted that the DFC monies needed to be spent within a three-year time frame.
- It was noted that secondary schools found it easier to spend the money, spending on ICT programmes and equipment for example, which masked the unspent balances for other schools.
- Any schools with unspent balances of greater than £1,000 due to expire had been contacted to identify what plans were in place to spend this money.
- It was noted that responses showed that there were sufficient plans in place to satisfy the ESFA.
- It was noted that if there was evidence of plans to spend the money, it did not need to be recorded as an underspend.
- It was highlighted for the Forum that only the ESFA were able to claw back any unspent money, not the Local Authority.
- It was noted that this information would be included in Headteacher Induction and Governor Training Packages and the Forum requested that these points be highlighted in a letter to headteachers to ensure greater understanding and clarity.

Resolved:

1. That the DFC balances held in schools at 31 August 2018 be noted.
2. That the new reporting procedures be supported.
3. That information explaining the DFC changes be cascaded to schools in the form of a letter.

8 **Scheme for Financing Schools**

Steven Hurdley, Finance Officer presented the Scheme for Financing Schools report and highlighted key points. It was clarified that any proposed changes to the local scheme for financing schools were subject to a consultation and approval by members of the Forum representing maintained schools and the report summarised the planned consultation and proposed revisions to the scheme.

In addition to the information contained within the report, the following points were highlighted:

- The end date for the consultation referred to in the report was highlighted as 9 November 2018, therefore any comments must reach the Authority by this deadline date.
- A concern was expressed with regard to the early retirement costs and its potential to be a long-term financial commitment. It was noted that this already formed part of the current scheme, however it had been brought to forefront more recently. It was added that there was a central ringfenced amount set aside for this.
- It was noted that the authority bears some cost for pensions top-ups and that the new agreement took effect from 2018 onwards.
- It was suggested that a paper be brought to a future Forum meeting on the implications of pensions for Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG).

Resolved:

1. That the consultation period be noted.
2. That a follow-up report be delivered to a future Forum meeting following the consultation to consider the publication and implementation of the revised Scheme.
3. That a paper be received at a future Forum meeting on the implications of pensions for Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG).

9 **National Funding Formula Update**

Debra Boniface, Finance Manager delivered a presentation on the National Funding Formula Update and highlighted the following points:

- The Forum were updated on the changes made since last year and it was noted that the main focus was growth.
- The gains cap had increased by 6.09% per pupil.
- Impact on schools and potential figures formed part of the presentation, however it was stressed that the figures represented were an illustration only and not final figures.
- The central services budgets will impact on pressures faced within the high needs block and work was being carried out with colleagues to deliver an update for a future Schools' Forum meeting.
- Conversations were being entered into with HM Treasury and DfE on schools' costs rather than prevention and lobbying of the Government to keep money in education for the future was taking place.
- The formula was described as transitional and it was stated that there was currently no commitment beyond 2021.
- The Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) bands had changed, meaning a block of schools should have gained but didn't.
- It was stated that local authorities applied Section 106 and clawed back from developers to pay for growth and development. It was clarified that Section 106 goes towards capital cost and not revenue monies.

Following the presentation, the recommendations made were for the Schools' Forum to:

- Agree to consult with all schools.
- Agree to introduce National Funding Formula Rates from 2019-2020.
- Agree to move 0.5% from Schools Block to High Needs Block.

Resolved:

1. That the Forum agree to consult with all schools on the use of the Funding Formula.
2. That results of the consultation be brought to the Forum at the December meeting.
3. That the National Funding Formula Rates be introduced from 2019-2020 following the consultation.
4. That the 0.5% be moved from the schools' block to the high needs block.
5. That an update on pressures faced within the high needs block be added as a future agenda item.
6. That an impact on growth in Schools' Fund be added as a future agenda item.

10 **Update on School Improvement Projects**

Amanda Newbold, Head of School Improvement presented the briefing note and highlighted key points. In addition to information contained in the briefing note, it was added that:

- Positive outcomes had resulted from all projects.
- Outreach Engagement profiling was currently under pilot. Employees were being trained to roll this out to mainstream schools.

Resolved:

That the briefing note be received.

11 **Update on Clawed Back Finances**

It was agreed that this item had been had already been covered during agenda item 4.

12 **High Needs Funding Sub-Group Update**

Adrian Leach, Head of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) provided the Forum with a verbal update on High Needs Funding and highlighting key areas:

- There had been a meeting of the High Needs Sub-group on 13 September 2018.
- It was noted that a better understanding was being developed of how high need were funded.
- Work on budget codes was being carried out for Schools' Forum and a review of the funding matrix for Educational Health Care Plans and Outreach was underway. Top-up funding was currently sitting in the same budget code for autistic children in mainstream schools. Outreach provision was being taken into mainstream schools to prevent exclusion.
- Robert Hart, Principal Educational Psychologist had been working with special schools to gain a better understanding of what the funding was spent on.
- Tom Knott, SEND Commissioning Officer was responsible for working on commissioning 2019 - 2020 places and would be outlining information in a report for a future meeting.

- Work had been carried out on updating and reviewing models used in other local authorities.
- It was reported that a Matrix review was being pulled together and anticipated to be complete by the end of November 2018.

Resolved:

That the update be noted.

13

Any Other Business

It was requested that the meeting be returned to a Committee Room on the third floor and that microphones be used.

Resolved:

That Democratic Services return the meeting to a Committee Room on the third floor and supply microphones at the next available opportunity.

The Chair thanked all for coming and closed the meeting at 17:20.

Schools' Forum Membership (September 2018)

Primary sector						
Headteacher / Representatives	Nominated	Term ends	Governors	Elected	Term ends	Notes
Lisa Thompson (St Andrews C of E Primary)	06.09.18	Sep 21	Stephen Smith (Vice Chair) (Warstones)	03.03.17	Sep 20	5 representatives of maintained Primary Schools, of which at least 2 must be governors.
Zoe Rollinson (Lanesfield Primary)	24.03.18	Sep 21	Raymond Green (Fallings Park)	7.7.16	Sep 19	
			J Dovey (Warstones Primary)	03.03.17	Sep 20	
Substitutes			Substitute			
VACANCY			Trisha James	03.03.17	Sep 20	
VACANCY			VACANCY			

Secondary sector						
Headteacher / Representatives	Nominated	Term ends				Notes
VACANCY						1 Representative of maintained Secondary Schools.
Substitute						
James Ludlow	08.12.16	Sep 19				

Nursery sector						
Headteacher / Representatives	Nominated	Term ends	Governors	Elected	Term ends	Notes
Susan Lacey (Ashmore Park)	29.01.17	Sep 20	Lucia Jayne Turner (Windsor Nursery)	24.04.17	Sep 20	2 Representatives
Substitutes			Substitute			
VACANCY			Linda Campbell	26.04.17	Sep 20	

Special school sector						
Headteacher / Representatives	Nominated	Term ends	Governors	Elected	Term ends	Notes
Sarah Whittington	10.03.18	Sep 21	B Bond (Chair) (Green Park)	05.05.17	Sep 20	2 Representatives. 1 Headteacher and 1 governor.
Substitutes			Substitute			
Elaine Stanley	29.01.17	Sep 20	Tim Gallagher	05.05.17	Sep 20	

Schools' Forum Membership (September 2018)

Pupil Referral Unit			
Headteacher / Representatives	Nominated	Term ends	Notes
Arthur Thompson	28.11.16	Sep 19	1 representative
Substitute			
Jo Wood	28.11.16	Sep 19	

Academies sector			
Representatives	Nominated	Term ends	Notes
Jeremy Parkes (Perry Hall MAT)	06.04.17	Sep 20	Membership – 10 representatives Co-ordinated by ConnectEd *(Upon conversion)
Graham Tate (Highfields)	15.12.17	Sep 20	
Matthew Welton (Trinity*)	23.03.18	Sep 21	
Lynne Law (St. Martin's MAT)	11.10.18	Sep 21	
Phil Williams (CLPT)	11.10.18	Sep 21	
Louisa Craig (Pope John xxiii Catholic MAT)	11.10.18	Sep 21	
Ed Moore (Finance officer at Manor MAT)	11.10.18	Sep 21	
David Lewis (Principal – St. Peter's Collegiate)	11.10.18	Sep 21	
Ben Davis Headteacher -Grove Primary (Part of St. Martin's MAT)	11.10.18	Sep 21	
Karen Preston (Woodfield)	14.11.18	Sep 21	
Substitutes			
Amarjit Cheema (Perry Hall MAT)	06.04.17	Sep 20	
Kirsty Banks (St. Stephen's C of E Primary School)	14.11.18	Sep 21	
David Cooke (St. Peter's Collegiate)	11.10.18	Sep 21	
VACANCY			

Schools' Forum Membership (September 2018)

Non School Members

Sector	Representative	Nominated	Term ends	Notes
Diocesan Schools (x2)	Carroll McNally (Holy Trinity Catholic)	25.02.17	Sep 20	Membership: 4 representatives Each of the sectors to nominate representatives
	VACANCY (CE)			
	Substitutes			
	VACANCY (Corpus Christi Catholic)			
	Gary Gentle (Bilston CE)	08.03.17	Sep 20	
Early Years (PVI Sector)	Debbie Clarke	13.02.17	Sep 20	
16-19 Education	Ian Browne	12.12.17	Sep 20	

Observer Status Members

Sector	Representative	Notes
Councillor with cabinet responsibility for Schools, Skills and Learning	Councillor Lynne Moran	
Director Education	Meredith Teasdale	
Director of Finance	Claire Nye	
Head of School Organisation	Bill Hague	
EFA	Keith Hawkins	
Clerk to the Forum	Democratic Support	
Democratic Services Officer	Shelley Humphries	Contact: shelley.humphries@wolverhampton.gov.uk 01902 554070

This page is intentionally left blank

City of Wolverhampton Council

SCHOOLS' FORUM

Date	6 December 2018
Report title	Schools' Forum – Forward Plan 2018 - 2019
Contact Officer/s	Bill Hague
Telephone number/s	01902 555100

Summary:

This report outlines the Forward Plan for Schools' Forum for 2018- 2019.

It is good practice to have a forward plan in order to ensure that Forum members are aware of the schedule of reports that need to be considered and decisions made.

Decision:

Members of the Schools' Forum are asked to note the Forward Plan.

**Wolverhampton Schools' Forum
Forward Plan 2018 - 2019**

Date of Meeting	Item Type	Responsible Officer
17 January 2019		
Update on School Balances (Deficit Budget Management)	Information Item	Steve Hurdley
Dedicated Schools Grant and Schools Funding 2019 - 2020	Decision Item	Debra Boniface/James Barlow
High Needs Sub Group Update (Verbal)	Information Item	TBC
PFI / Unitary Charge	Information Item	TBC
School Representation in the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub	Decision Item	Bill Hague/Andrew Wolverson
25 February 2019		
Schools Funding Block 2019	Approval Item	Debra Boniface/James Barlow
High Needs Block Funding	Approval Item	Debra Boniface/James Barlow
Early Years Funding Block 2019	Approval Item	Debra Boniface/James Barlow
Central Services Block 2019	Approval Item	Debra Boniface/James Barlow
04 July 2019		
School Balances	Information Item	Debra Boniface
Dedicated Schools Grant Out-turn	Information Item	Debra Boniface
Surplus Balance Update	Decision Item	Bill Hague/Amanda Newbold

City of Wolverhampton Council

SCHOOLS' FORUM

Date	6 December 2018
Report title	Growth Fund Update
Contact Officer/s	Dave Kirby
Telephone number/s	01902 554152

Summary:

This report provides an update on the deployment of the 2017 - 2018 Growth Fund and outlines estimated 2018 - 2019 Growth Fund allocations. Schools' Forum members are asked to reaffirm growth fund eligibility criteria in accordance with the relevant guidance from the Education Skills and Funding Agency (ESFA).

Decision:

Members of Schools' Forum are asked to:

1. Note the 2017 - 2018 Growth Fund allocations (**Schedule 1**).
2. Note estimated 2018 - 2019 Growth Fund allocations (**Schedule 2**).
3. Note potential 2019 - 2020 Growth Fund allocation and changes to Funding Formula
4. Note the anticipated upturn in demand for both the Primary and Secondary estates and the need for future Growth Funds to support both phases.

Schedule of Background Papers:

Schools' Forum (11 January 2018)
Cabinet (November 2017)
Council (September 2017)
Cabinet (September 2017)
Cabinet (June 2017)
Schools' Forum (February 2017)
Schools' Forum (19 January 2017) Centrally Managed and De-Delegated Services 2017/18
Cabinet (20 July 2016) School Place Planning
Schools' Forum (13 January 2016) Centrally Retained Dedicated Schools Grant and De-Delegated Services 2016/17
Schools' Forum (13 January 2016) Growth Fund update
Schools' Forum (9 July 2015) Growth Fund Update
Schools' Forum (9 October 2014) Establishment of a Growth Fund to Support Expanding Schools

1.0 Background

- 1.1 As previously reported to Schools' Forum, Department for Education (DfE) Regulations enable Local Authorities (LAs), with the express agreement of their Schools' Forum, to create a Growth Fund to support the revenue needs of schools which are required to provide additional places *to meet basic need*.
- 1.2 Schools' Forum first agreed to the establishment of a Wolverhampton Growth Fund on 9 October 2014. In line with this agreement, a Growth Fund has been subsequently retained and deployed.
- 1.3 Experience has shown that Growth Fund provision is essential to expanding schools as the admission of significant numbers of additional pupils has clear revenue budget implications for the schools concerned (funding is based upon numbers on roll recorded within the preceding autumn term School Census). Without such provision expanding schools would face a likely shortfall in revenue funding until funding allocations reflect actual numbers on roll.
- 1.4 City schools currently qualify for funding through the Growth Fund in the following circumstances:
 - The school or academy has agreed with the LA to permanently increase its admission limit to meet basic need.
 - The school or academy has agreed with the LA to provide a bulge class to meet basic need.
 - The school or academy has agreed with the LA to expand in-year to meet basic need.
- 1.5 In all instances the principal basis for allocating additional funding through the Growth Fund is the number of additional children admitted *to meet basic need*; individual schools' funding rates are based upon the pupil led factors of the local funding formula. The Growth Fund also includes a guaranteed minimum level of funding to provide greater security to those schools who are expanding to meet basic need.
- 1.6 DfE guidelines suggest that the Growth Fund must be employed on the same basis for the benefit of maintained schools and academies and this is reflected in the operation of the Wolverhampton Growth Fund.

2.0 Update on Deployment of 2017 - 2018 Growth Fund

- 2.1 On 27 February 2017 Schools' Forum agreed to the creation of a Growth Fund of £950,000.
- 2.2 2017 - 2018 Growth Fund allocations were a total of £940,000. **Schedule 1** provides further detail of individual school allocations.

3.0 Update on Deployment of 2018 - 2019 Growth Fund

- 3.1 On 11 January 2018 Schools' Forum agreed to the creation of a Growth Fund of £1.8 million.
- 3.2 Please note that at the time of this meeting, 2018 Autumn census data is currently being validated. Consequently, any 2018 - 2019 Growth Fund payments (**Schedule 2**) for standard or in-year expansion allocations are yet to be processed.

- 3.3 Estimated payments detailed in **Schedule 2** are based on an indicative number on roll figure from 4 October 2018.
- 3.4 Any resources remaining in the 2018 - 2019 Growth Fund at the end of the financial year will be reported to Schools' Forum in July 2019 and be considered as part of the overall 2018 - 2019 out-turn.
- 3.5 The estimated payments detailed in **Schedule 2** (subject to the caveats above) would result in a remaining resource of circa £396,000, which would be carried forward to supplement the 2019 - 2020 Growth Fund.

4.0 Deployment of the 2019 - 2020 Growth Fund

- 4.1 As previously reported to Schools' Forum the Education Funding Agency's (EFA) recommended method of supporting the revenue requirements of schools expanding to meet basic need is to "...top-slice the DSG in order to create a Growth Fund to support schools which are required to provide extra places in order to meet basic need" (EFA July 2015).
- 4.2 "In 2019 - 2020, the DfE are introducing a formulaic approach to allocating growth funding to local authorities to ensure that this funding is distributed fairly and consistently. Growth allocations for 2019 - 2020 will be based on pupil data from the October 2018 census. Local authorities will continue to manage their growth funding locally in 2019 - 2020 as they did in 2018 - 2019." ('The national funding formulae for schools and high needs 2019 to 2020', July 2018)
- 4.3 Growth Funds ensure the provision of an appropriate, *timely* revenue stream to support expanding schools. The provision of resources in a timely manner reduces the risk of a reduction in the performance of individual establishments and enables schools to meet the needs of their pupils more effectively.
- 4.4 Growth Funds "...*The growth fund can be used only for the purposes of supporting growth in pre-16 pupil numbers to meet basic need, to support additional classes needed to meet the infant class size regulation and to meet the costs of new schools*" (EFA Schools Revenue Funding 2017 to 2018 – Updated February 2017).
- 4.5 Growth Funds may not be used to support either schools in financial difficulty or to meet the strategic aspirations of schools or trusts who wish to expand to meet their local objectives.
- 4.6 It is the intention to continue to use the existing transparent and consistent criteria under which schools qualify for funding as set out in 1.4 above.
- 4.7 In line with our approved strategies for standard school expansions (i.e. the managed introduction of additional places at standard year of entry), the principal basis for allocating additional funding to schools would be the number of additional children admitted (as at October Census 2019). Individual schools' funding rates would be based upon the pupil led factors of the funding formula. However, in order to provide schools expanding to meet basic need greater security, it is proposed that a guaranteed minimum level of funding is once again included. Expanding schools would be guaranteed to receive at a minimum, the equivalent of the salary of a teacher at the midpoint of the teachers' main scale for each 30 additional places provided (this figure

would be adjusted on a pro-rata basis depending on the number of additional places being provided).

- 4.8 Due to variations in school financial years it is intended that allocations to maintained schools would reflect the period September to March, whilst allocations to academies reflect the period September to August. It is understood that the ESFA would adjust the relevant recoupment to reflect the extra cost to cover the period April to August.
- 4.9 In line with the current approach for schools that expand in-year, it is proposed that allocations will be made on a termly basis and be informed by actual pupil numbers as recorded in the School Census. It is proposed that schools who expand in-year will receive an allocation that equates to the higher of;
- a. The equivalent of half of the salary of a teacher at the mid-point of the teachers' main scale for each additional 15 places provided (pro-rata depending on the number of places provided)
 - b. An allocation based upon the number of additional pupils admitted, calculated on the pupil led factors of the funding formula (pro-rata across the financial year).
- 4.10 There is a need to introduce additional secondary school places in the City for September 2019. Any additional places will be introduced in line with the approved strategic policy as outlined in 'The Vision for School Organisation 2018 – 2020: City of Wolverhampton Education Place Planning.
- 4.11 Schools' Forum should note previously confirmed expansion programmes and in year growth requirements.
- 4.12 As a result the estimated amount for the 2019 - 2020 growth fund is £2.7 million. However, this is subject to any changes in the funding formula.
- 4.13 In order to ensure transparency it is proposed that any 2019 - 2020 Growth Fund deployments would once again be reported to Schools' Forum on a periodic basis.
- 4.14 Please note that it is anticipated there will be a requirement to deploy a Growth Fund in subsequent financial years to support the needs of pupils in expanding primary and secondary schools to meet basic need. The City attracts additional DSG funding as a result of the increased number of pupils in the system.

5.0 IMPACT

- 5.1 The allocation of resources from the Dedicated Schools Grant impacts on the funding directed to schools.

Report author
David Kirby
Service Manager, School Places and Transport
01902-554152
david.kirby@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Academic Year 2017 - 2018 Growth Fund Allocations Paid

Establishment	Standard and In-Year Payments
Bilston CE Primary	£82,129
Dunstall Hill Primary	£129,135
Eastfield Primary	£79,366
Fallings Park Primary	£99,839
Manor Primary	£91,696
Northwood Park Primary	£106,312
St Andrew's CE Primary	£30,681
St Mary's Catholic Primary	£160,002
Trinity CE Primary	£71,784
Westacre Infant	£23,259
Wilkinson Primary	£57,166
Berrybrook Primary	£4,146
Perry Hall Primary	£5,629
Total	£941,144

Academic Year 2018 - 2019 Estimated Growth Fund payments

Standard Payments (Autumn 2018)

Establishment	Estimated Total Allocation 2018 - 2019
Bilston CE Primary	£74,100
Northwood Park Primary	£35,200
St Andrew's CE Primary	£32,000
Eastfield Primary	£77,000
Dunstall Hill Primary	£124,700
Fallings Park Primary	£62,600
Trinity CE Primary	£68,800
Manor Primary	£92,200
St Mary's Catholic Primary	£62,500
Spring Vale Primary	£41,100
Stowlawn Primary	£26,000
Loxdale Primary	£52,100
Total Primary	£748,300
Our Lady & St Chad's Academy	£200,200
Aldersley	£97,300
Total Secondary	£297,500
GRAND TOTAL	£1,045,800

Academic Year 2018 - 2019 Estimated Growth Fund payments

In-Year Payments (Full Academic Year 2018 - 2019)

Establishment	Estimated Total Allocation 2018 - 2019
Bilston CE Primary	£7,400
Perry Hall	£17,200
Berrybrook	£11,800
Dunstall Hill Primary	£4,200
Fallings Park Primary	£3,600
Wodensfield	£8,000
Edward the Elder	£12,400
St Mary's Catholic	£5,600
Total Primary	£70,200
St Edmund's	£228,400
St Matthias	£59,000
Total Secondary	£287,400
GRAND TOTAL	£357,600

This page is intentionally left blank

City of Wolverhampton Council

SCHOOLS' FORUM

Date	6 December 2018
Report title	Scheme for Financing Schools
Contact Officer/s	Steven Hurdley
Telephone number/s	01902 554106

Summary:

As required by regulation, before making any proposed changes to the local Scheme for Financing Schools, the Authority must consult with head teachers and the Chair of Governors of all maintained schools in its area holding a delegated budget and following this receive the approval of the members of forum representing maintained schools. This period of consultation commenced on 20 September and ended on 9 November 2018. This report presents details of those proposed amendments following the consultation process.

Decision:

Members of the Schools Forum are asked to:

1. Approve amendments to Wolverhampton's Scheme for Financing Schools as shown in Appendix 1 to this report and;
2. Agree to the implementation and publication, with effect from 1 January 2019, of the revised Scheme.

Schedule of background papers (If applicable):

1. Wolverhampton Scheme for Financing Schools, February 2016
2. Statutory guidance produced by the Department for Education March 2018

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 This report is to inform Forum of the outcome of the consultation referred to above and to implement proposals to update the Authority's Scheme for Financing Schools.
- 1.2 Subject to Forum approval the revised Scheme will replace the existing statutory document with effect from January 2019.
- 1.3 Re-publication and public availability of the revised Scheme will be in accordance with statutory requirements.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The Scheme for Financing Schools sets out the relationship between the Authority and the schools it maintains. The current Scheme was last republished in during 2016. Since then it has become apparent that changes are required both for technical reasons and clarity. Details of proposed revisions to the Scheme are detailed within Appendix 1 to this report.
- 2.2 Any amendments which the Authority wishes to make to the Scheme must be consulted on with all maintained schools and be approved by members of Schools' Forum representing maintained schools in accordance with regulation. The publication of the Scheme following such approval is also subject to regulation.

3.0 Consultation Process

- 3.1 A consultation process was held with head teachers and Chairs of Governors of all maintained schools with a delegated budget. This consultation ended on 9 November 2018.
- 3.2 Written notification of the consultation was provided to schools and comments invited.
- 3.3 Further information in relation to Annex D of the proposed revised Scheme was provided to schools as requested by Forum at its meeting held on 4 October 2018.
- 3.4 At the close of the consultation on 9 November 2018, no responses or comments had been received from schools or their governing bodies.
- 3.5 A full draft of the proposed revised Scheme for Financing Schools is available to members of the Schools' Forum should it be required.

PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE SCHEME FOR FINANCING SCHOOLS

- Updates made throughout the Scheme, to reflect changes in the Schools and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2018.
- Paragraph 4.9 has been updated to reflect changes on balances of closing schools, as detailed under Regulation 25 (9).

‘Where in the funding period, a school has been established or is subject to a prescribed alteration as a result of the closure of a school, a local authority may add an amount to the budget share of the new or enlarged school to reflect all or part of the unspent budget share (including any surplus carried over from previous funding periods) of the closing school for the funding period in which it closes’.

- Annex D: Responsibility for redundancy and early retirement costs has been updated to reflect changes under Schedule 2 Part 7, of the Finance Regulations. This details how a local authority can retain a central budget within the schools’ budget to fund the costs of new early retirements or redundancies by a deduction from maintained school budgets (excluding nursery schools) only, where the relevant maintained school members of the Schools’ Forum agree.
- Within paragraph 6.2.16, ‘statement of SEN’ has been replaced with ‘Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP)’.
- Other minor amendments to the wording to reflect latest statutory regulation, guidance, good practice, clarity and avoidance of doubt.

This page is intentionally left blank

City of Wolverhampton Council

SCHOOLS' FORUM

Date	6 December 2018
Report title	2019 - 2020 Consultation on Schools' Funding Formula
Contact Officer/s	Debra Boniface
Telephone number/s	01902 557975

Summary:

In September 2018, the Department for Education published indicative funding levels for 2019-2020 Dedicated Schools Grant (Schools Block) (DSG).

This report explains the options available for application of the National Funding Formula (NFF) to Wolverhampton schools in 2019-2020, considering current pressures alongside the anticipated requirement to fully implement the NFF by 2020-2021.

All school head teachers and Chairs of Governors have been consulted on the options available, and the outcomes of this consultation are shown in Appendix 1.

Decision:

Members of Schools' Forum are asked to:

1. Note the outcomes of the consultation;
2. Consider the implications of the impact of the various options for all schools in Wolverhampton;
3. Register a vote that represents the school cohort they represent;
4. Agree on a funding formula for 2019-2020

1.0 Background

1.1 The Government initially announced its intention to introduce a national funding formula for schools (reception to Year 11) from 2017-2018 but following a period of consultation, introduced a phased implementation of the NFF from April 2018. 2019-2020 is the second year of the phased implementation, and whilst no definite date has been given, it is anticipated that full implementation may be introduced from 2021-2022.

1.2 The 2019-2020 NFF has seen an increase in the minimum guarantee per pupil:

Phase	2018-2019 minimum guarantee per pupil £	2019-2020 minimum guarantee per pupil £
Primary	3,300	3,500
Secondary	4,600	4,800

1.3 The indicative 2019-2020 DSG allocation for City of Wolverhampton Council is:

2019-2020 Indicative DSG Settlement	£million
Schools Block	184.73
High Needs Block	35.11
Central Services Block	2.00
TOTAL	221.83

1.4 In 2019-2020 a 'soft' version of the national funding formula remains. Local Authorities are funded on the cumulative values of national funding formula, which is then distributed to schools by a locally determined formula. As we progress towards full NFF implementation, most of the NFF rates have been introduced for the 2019-2020 local distribution, with the only amendment being to the English as an Additional Language (EAL) factor.

1.5 In recent years, the High Needs Block has been overspending, due to an increase in the number of children requiring more specialist provision, with increased pressure being put on both the Out of City and Alternative Provision expenditure. During the phased implementation of the national funding formula, Local Authorities can move up to 0.5% from the Schools Block, with Schools' Forum agreement. In 2017-2018, this overspend amounted to £1.83 million which was funded from committing 2018-2019 grant in advance (reducing the available grant for 2018-2019 to £32.09 million). Once the National Funding Formula is fully implemented, this movement between blocks is expected to be stopped in all but exceptional circumstances which will require approval from the Secretary of State.

1.6 Whilst there continues to be an overspend on the High Needs Block funded elements, it is anticipated that it will be reduced significantly at the end of 2018-2019. Through moving the maximum amount permissible in 2019-2020, the strain to continually borrow forward will be reduced, enabling the High Needs provision to be fully self-funded from the High Needs Block in future years.

- 1.7 Due to changes in the city population, the Local Authority has committed capital investment in expansion programmes in both the primary and secondary sectors. Schools affected by these expansion schemes will require support through an established growth fund. Given the size and nature of the planned expansion programmes, it is estimated that a fund of £2.5 million will be required for 2019-2020.
- 1.8 A growth factor has been introduced to the 2019-2020 funding formula used to calculate the Local Authority settlement. This has previously been provided based on historical spend and has resulted in a requirement for Local Authorities to make a top-slice from the Schools Block in order to re-allocate the funds to schools facing significant growth in year. The illustrative settlement for 2019-2020 is £1.38 million. Based on this indication and the estimated funds required, an element of top-slicing may still be required. However, the final data will be published in late December 2019, and the expected settlement is expected to be higher than illustrated. As a result, the amount of top-slice required from Wolverhampton schools can only be estimated at present.

2.0 Options for consideration

- 2.1 Given the pressures currently facing the Local Authority and the requirement to progress towards full implementation of the NFF, options considered all make the maximum movement of 0.5% from Schools Block to High Needs Block.
- 2.2 All options considered move all but one factor from a locally determined rate to the NFF rate. The exception being English as an Additional Language, where a rate midway between the previous local and the NFF figures has been used for both primary and secondary.
- 2.3 Options for consideration, which include an assumed growth fund allocation of £1.39 million (i.e. no top-slicing) are included in Appendix 2 and provide the following adjustments:
- A – 0.5% Transfer from Schools Block to High Needs Block
0.25% Minimum Funding Guarantee
1.75% Capping factor
 - B - 0.50% Transfer from Schools Block to High Needs Block
0.50% Minimum Funding Guarantee
1.50% Capping factor
 - C - 0.50% Transfer from Schools Block to High Needs Block
0.00% Minimum Funding Guarantee
1.95% Capping factor

2.4 These options are summarised in the following table:

	A	B	C
	NFF - with adjusted EAL Rates	NFF - with adjusted EAL Rates	NFF - with adjusted EAL Rates
Indicative Settlement (£)	184,725,991.00	184,725,991.00	184,725,991.00
HN Movement (£)	923,629.96	923,629.96	923,629.96
HN Movement (%)	0.50%	0.50%	0.50%
Growth Fund (Illustrative)	1,390,000.00	1,390,000.00	1,390,000.00
Available for distribution to schools	182,412,361.05	182,412,361.05	182,412,361.05
MFG/ Cap Rates			
MFG (Max 0.5%)	0.25%	0.50%	0.00%
Cap	1.75%	1.50%	1.95%
Total Distributed to schools	182,221,215.40	182,223,036.81	182,180,094.08
Flex for growth	191,145.65	189,324.23	232,266.96

2.5 The Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) represents the value by which an individual school's budget can change from 2018 to 2019. The Department for Education provide flexibility for a permissible range between -1.5% and +0.5%. In previous years, the maximum value has been 0%. When preparing modelling options, no negative MFG options have been considered, to allow for the most positive outcomes for all schools, in a move to transition towards the NFF.

2.6 The Capping factor is applied to limit the gains made by a single school on a per pupil basis. Schools with gains will retain all gains below the capping factor on a per pupil basis. The minimum permitted value is 0%, and there is no maximum as this is an optional factor.

2.7 All figures included in Appendices are illustrative and based on 2018-2019 pupil numbers. A further Schools' Forum meeting is to be called for January 2019, ahead of the final submission to the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), and final figures will be published in February 2019, in line with the Department for Education timescales.

3.0 Consultation

3.1 At its meeting of 04 October 2018, Schools' Forum:

- agreed to move 0.5% from Schools Block to High Needs Block.
- Agreed that the adjusted National Funding Formula rates should be introduced from 2019-2020; and
- Gave its approval for the Local Authority to consult with all schools on the funding formula for 2019-2020.

3.2 The formal consultation ran from 25 October to 15 November 2018. Each school was allowed two votes - one from the head teacher and one from the Chair of Governors.

3.3 Of a possible 218, a total of 28 (12.8%) votes were received.

Option	Number of votes received	
A	0	0
B	17	61%
C	11	39%

3.4 Further analysis of the votes received can be found in Appendix 1

4.0 Recommended Option and Next Steps

- 4.1 The recommended option for the City of Wolverhampton is option B, which allows:
- flexibility to increase the growth fund allocation;
 - transfer of the maximum permitted 0.5% into the High Needs Block, which will help to address some of the increasing pressures faced by the City in supporting the numbers of children with additional needs and disabilities in our local schools and mitigate the need to continue borrowing forward from future years' allocations.
 - the greatest transfer of funds to schools through the formula.
- 4.2 Forum are advised that the final decision on the funding formula rests with the Local Authority. Whilst every consideration will be taken to adhere to the agreed formula, application of the agreed rates to the final dataset (received late December) does not always produce expected results. In these circumstances, minor adjustments will be required, and these will be reported to Forum in January 2019.

financial ✓ governance ✓ educational ✓ other directorates ✓

Appendix 1 – 2019-2020 Funding Formula Consultation

School Sector/ Phase	Maintained			Academy/Free School			Totals			Total
	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	
Secondary	0	3	0	0	5	2	0	8	2	10
Primary	0	3	4	0	2	5	0	5	9	14
Special	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
Nursery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PRU	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	0	10	4	0	7	7	0	17	11	28
			14			14			28	
Votes by Sector (% of possible votes)										
School Sector/ Phase	Maintained			Academy/Free School			Totals			Total
	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	
Secondary	-	50.0%	-	-	15.6%	6.3%	-	21.1%	5.3%	4.6%
Primary	-	4.1%	5.4%	-	2.9%	7.1%	-	13.2%	23.7%	6.4%
Special	-	50.0%	-	-	-	-	-	7.9%	-	1.8%
Nursery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
PRU	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Totals (% of eligible votes)	-	8.3%	3.7%	0.0%	6.4%	6.4%	0.0%	7.3%	5.0%	12.8%
			13.0%			12.7%			12.8%	
Votes by Sector (% of actual votes)										
School Sector/ Phase	Maintained			Academy/Free School			Totals			Total
	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	
Secondary	-	10.71%	-	-	17.86%	7.14%	-	28.57%	7.14%	35.7%
Primary	-	10.71%	14.29%	-	7.14%	17.86%	-	17.86%	32.14%	50.0%
Special	-	14.29%	-	-	-	-	-	14.29%	-	14.3%
Nursery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
PRU	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Totals (% of eligible votes)	0.00%	35.71%	14.29%	0.00%	25.00%	25.00%	0.00%	60.71%	39.29%	100.0%
			50.00%			50.00%			100.00%	
No Votes Received by Sector										
School Sector/ Phase	Maintained			Academy/Free School			Totals			
	No Schools	Available Votes	Actual Votes	No Schools	Available Votes	Actual Votes	Maintained	Academy/Free	Total	
Secondary	3	6	3	16	32	7	50.0%	21.9%	26.3%	
Primary	37	74	7	35	70	7	9.5%	10.0%	9.7%	
Special	4	8	4	3	6	0	50.0%	-	28.6%	
Nursery	7	14	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	
PRU	3	6	0	1	2	0	-	-	-	
Totals	54	108	14	55	110	14	13.0%	12.7%	12.8%	

By virtue of paragraph(s) 1, 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank