

HILLINGDON SCHOOLS FORUM

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 7 November 2019 at 2pm at the Civic Centre

Voting members

NAME	ORGANISATION	ATTENDANCE
Maintained Nursery (1)		
Ludmila Morris	McMillan Early Childhood Centre	PRESENT
Maintained Primary - Schools (4)		
Rachel Anderson	Dr Triplett's School	PRESENT
Duncan Greig	Breakspear Primary School	PRESENT
Kris O'Sullivan	Deanesfield Primary School	APOLOGIES
Sophia Shaikh	Grange Park Junior School	PRESENT
Maintained Primary - Governors (4)		
Jim Edgecombe (CHAIR)	Whiteheath Junior School	PRESENT
Tony Eginton	Minet Nursery & Infant School and Hillside Junior School	PRESENT
Phil Haigh	Cherry Lane Primary School and Meadow High School	PRESENT
Jo Palmer	Hillside Infant School and Hillside Junior School	PRESENT
Maintained Secondary (1)		
Liz Horrigan	Harlington School	PRESENT
Maintained Special (1)		
John Goddard	Hedgewood School	PRESENT
Academies (9)		
Bob Charlton	Charville Primary School	PRESENT
Tracey Hemming	Middlesex Learning Partnership	PRESENT
Robert Jones	Haydon School	APOLOGIES
Helen Manwaring	Swakeleys School	PRESENT
Peter Ryerson	Guru Nanak Sikh Academy	PRESENT
David Patterson	Queensmead School	PRESENT
Sandra Voisey	Laurel Lane Primary School	PRESENT
(two vacancies)		-
Special Academies (1)		
Sudhi Pathak	Eden Academy Trust	PRESENT
Alternative provision (1)		
Laurie Cornwell	The Skills Hub	APOLOGIES
Private Voluntary & Independent Early Years Providers (2)		
Elaine Caffary	4 Street Nursery	PRESENT
Lesley Knee	Ruislip Methodist Preschool	PRESENT
14-19 Partnership (1)		
(vacant)		

Other attendees (non-voting)

Independent Non-Maintained Special School		
Debbie Gilder	Pield Heath School	NOT REQUIRED
Shadow Representative (Maintained Primary - Schools)		
Rachel Blake	Whiteheath Infant School	NOT REQUIRED
Shadow Representative (Maintained Primary - Governor)		
John Buckingham	Glebe Primary School	NOT REQUIRED
Mr Graham Wells	Colham Manor Primary School	PRESENT
Local Authority Officers		
Kate Boulter	Clerk	APOLOGIES
Steve Denbeigh	LA Finance	PRESENT
Vikram Hansrani	LA - SEND	PRESENT
Dan Kennedy	Director Housing Environment Education Performance Health & Wellbeing	PRESENT
Peter Malewicz	Finance Manager - Children and Young People Services	PRESENT
Graham Young	Lead Finance Business Partner - School	PRESENT

		ACTION
1.	<p>APOLOGIES</p> <p>Apologies were accepted and recorded in the attendance list (above). The Chair confirmed the meeting was quorate and could proceed to business.</p> <p>Some members commented that papers for this meeting were made available quite late. There were several reasons for this including late receipt of information from the DfE, staff holidays and timetables that were beyond officers' control.</p>	
2.	<p>MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26 SEPTEMBER 2019</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 26 September 2019 were agreed as a correct record subject to the following amendments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandra Voisey and Helen Manwaring were both present. • Section 7-11 insert: "Harlington, which includes a designated unit for autism". 	
3.	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26 SEPTEMBER 2019</p> <p><u>Minute 4 - Implications of Heathrow expansion</u></p> <p>A member suggested that Heathrow should fully underwrite any losses suffered by the DSG as a result of the Heathrow expansion proposal. The Council's position was to oppose the expansion and it was closely following developments.</p> <p><u>Minute 4 – Place planning</u></p> <p>DK reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current projections anticipated eight additional forms of entry for secondary over the next 5 years. Discussions were taking place with secondary heads as to how these could be accommodated now and managed in the future. • Primary numbers seemed to have plateaued although there were some localised pressures, especially around Uxbridge. These seemed to be driven by parental choice. • There was expected to be 8-10% capacity in primary schools in 2020/21. • Several schools were looking at both 'soft' and permanent PAN reductions. • The LA would like to develop a 'Core Plan' with some contingency to allow for 'flex' in the system. • The secondary deadline had passed (31/10/19) and was being processed. The LA was waiting on out of borough applications. • Cabinet had been briefed regarding the temporary caps to PAN. • DK was working with VH on the Capital Building Programme for special school places and was in discussions with the special school Heads looking to increase places. • In response to questions as to why special school expansion was taking so long, DK advised that the LA could not create new special schools and increasing places was a complex and lengthy process. 	
4.	<p>DSG BUDGET 2019/20</p>	
	<p>(a) MONTH 6 DSG MONITORING REPORT</p> <p>The Group considered a monitoring report on the DSG budget 2019/20:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The adverse increase in the High Needs Block deficit was highlighted. This was the result of projections being built into the forecast. • LAC placements were stable at around 20 although they were more complex with a longer duration. <p>Members of the Forum commented that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Even with the recently announced increases to the hourly rate, PVIs were unable to attract staff to work in Nurseries, as they were unable to offer a competitive salary. A combination of low funding and a high staff : child ratio was making nurseries unviable. There were many unsafe practices being used to ensure ratio compliance to the 	

	<p>detriment of staff conditions. There had been a similar issue in social care and £5million was injected to alleviate the problem.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members asked if officers could confirm all LAC placements were into registered homes. PM to confirm. 	PM
5.	DSG BUDGET 2020/21	
	<p>(a) DEFICIT RECOVERY PLAN FEEDBACK The Forum considered a report on the ESFA's feedback on the Dedicated Schools Grant Deficit Recovery Plan dated 30 October 2019.</p> <p>The Forum expressed disappointment that valid suggestions made in the Plan had been dismissed by the ESFA. It was noted that there would be a meeting with the ESFA to discuss the plan further and the Forum requested that the ESFA be made aware that the Plan had been drawn up with the full participation and approval of Hillingdon Schools Forum.</p> <p>(b) FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS GY reported that, as had been expected, there would be a reduction in the Central Schools Services Budget of £225K in 20/21. This was where the ESFA expected LAs to rationalise central services over the medium term. For Hillingdon, this would cause issues in setting a balanced budget for 2020/21 as the LA's delegation was already extremely high.</p> <p>(c) CONSULTATIONS The Forum agreed the consultations to be sent out at the earliest opportunity. It was further agreed that the SEND deficit recovery plan would also be circulated. This had previously been a confidential document, and officers would endeavour to contact those schools referenced in the document to forewarn them of its contents.</p>	PM
6.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS None.	
7.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING The next meeting of the Schools Forum would be held in the Civic Centre on Thursday 12 December 2019 at 2pm. It was noted this fell on Election Day but the meeting would go ahead as planned.	

The meeting closed at 4.10pm.