



Rutland County Council

Catmose Oakham Rutland LE15 6HP
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Minutes of the **MEETING of the SCHOOLS' FORUM** held in the Council Chamber, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6HP on Thursday, 10th October, 2019 at 4.00 pm

PRESENT:		Representing
1.	Mrs S Milner (Deputy Chair)	Academies
2.	Mrs A Chambers	Academies
3.	Mr A Menzies	Dioceses (Deputy)
4.	Mr B Gale	Trade Union
5.	Mrs F Wilce	Maintained Schools
6.	Mrs J Gilboy	Academies (Governors)
7.	Mr R Gooding	Academies
8.	Mr R Shore	Post 16 provision
9.	Mr S Williams	Academies

IN ATTENDANCE:		Representing
10.	Mr D Wilby	Portfolio Holder for Lifelong Learning, Early Years, Special Educational Needs & Disabilities, Inclusion
11.	Mr M Andrews	Strategic Director People (DCS, DASS), RCC
12.	Ms D Godfrey	Deputy Director – Children, RCC
13.	Ms B Caffrey	Head of Early Help, SEND and Inclusion
14.	Ms G Curtis	Head of Service, Learning and Skills, RCC
15.	Mr K Quinn	Service Manager, Early Intervention, SEND and Inclusion, RCC
16.	Mr A Merry	Finance Manager, RCC
17.	Miss J Narey (Clerk)	Business Support, RCC

APOLOGIES:		Representing
18.	Mr C Smith (Chair)	Academies
19.	Mr B Solly	Academies (Deputy)
20.	Mrs M Darlington	PVI
21.	Mr P French	LA Appointed Dioceses Rep
22.	Mr S Cox	SEN Headteacher

1 MINUTES AND ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of the Schools' Forum held on the 13th June 2019 were confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Action 1

It was agreed that the Constitution and Rules of Conduct document with tracked changes would be circulated with the minutes identifying the actual changes made.

Action completed

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

3 PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS AND QUESTIONS

None received

4 FUNDING UPDATE

A report was received from Andrew Merry. During the discussion the following points were noted:

A) THE DSG 2019/20

- i. Currently showing deficit for High Needs of £224k.
- ii. Result due to a number of cases moving into the county. Figures show a greater increase than the modelled increase of 1 case as have received 8 new cases.
- iii. Overspend is only likely to increase further as any new cases arrive.
- iv. The deficit on the DSG still requires the submission of a Recovery Plan to the DfE by June 2020.
- v. Update regarding teachers' pay within the report. Update re pensions will be circulated with the minutes.
- vi. There were two important issues to consider - early years and transition.

AGREED:

- a. The Schools Forum noted the forecast position for 2019/20 Dedicated Schools Grant.

5 DSG RECOVERY PLAN

A report was received from Andrew Merry and Kevin Quinn. During the discussion the following points were noted:

- i. Paper summarises actions put in place since the last meeting of the Schools' Forum.
- ii. Primary Schools Nurture Programme: Second meeting held on 10th October. Programme progressing and will go live in March 2020.
- iii. Specialist Teacher Support: £50k set aside. Commissioning a provider instead of recruitment to a post was the preferred option as it would be quicker and would provide greater flexibility and resilience. Programme progressing and will go live in November 2019.

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Rob Gooding arrived at 16:12

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- iv. Education Inclusion Partnership: 4 primary schools have committed to the partnership – Catmose Primary, Ketton CofE, Cottesmore Academy and Uppingham CofE. One other school as expressed an interest in signing up to the partnership.
- v. Therapeutic Support: £100k set aside. No additional provisions have as yet been identified. The identification of such interventions would most likely come out of the other projects.
- vi. Good progress has been made since June 2019 but these are long-term projects and not short-term fixes.
- vii. Cllr Wilby requested regular updates including what's going well, any issues as well as data regarding the figures involved.

AGREED:

- a) The Schools' Forum noted the project progress to date.

6 FUNDING UPDATE: 2020-21

A report was received from Andrew Merry. During the discussion the following points were noted:

- i. The schools budget would rise by £2.6 billion in 2020/21, £4.8 billion in 2021-22 and £7.1 billion in 2022/23, compared to 2019/20 funding levels.
- ii. The minimum per pupil funding levels would be set at £3,750 for primary schools and £5,000 for secondary schools. The following year, in 2021/22, the primary minimum level would rise to £4,000.
- iii. The rising numbers of EHCP's mean that the Council would still propose the transfer of 0.5% from the schools block to the High Needs Block in 2020/21 as undertaken in previous years.
- iv. Schools requested that in future greater details regarding the figures involved for individual schools and the identified impacts of these figures on schools be given prior to decisions being needed.
- v. Andrew confirmed that the figures were based on December school pupil numbers and he would distribute the details to schools. He also agreed to send each school details regarding the impact on their individual funding for moving 0.5% from schools block to the High Needs Block in 2020/21 and to show what the effects would be if the percentage increased to 1%.

ACTION: Andrew Merry

- vi. Individual school budgets would be sent out in January 2020.
- vii. Gill confirmed no increase in this year's Learning and Skills Service Fees and Charges to Schools

AGREED:

- a) The Schools' Forum noted the position on the 2020/21 Funding Announcements.
- b) The Schools' Forum approved the transfer of 0.5% from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block in 2020/21.
- c) The Schools' Forum agreed that all schools would share the details of the funding allocation to their own school with the other schools in Rutland.

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Stuart Williams and Judith Gilboy left the meeting at 16:42

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7 SCHOOL CAPACITY (SCAP) RETURNS

Nothing new to report.

8 ANY URGENT BUSINESS

A) DEPUTIES

A discussion was held regarding the need for additional deputies especially for Special Schools and the Early Years Private, Voluntary and Independent providers (PVI). Jane to contact Steve Cox for a nomination and Sharon to raise at the Early Years Meeting.

ACTION: Jane Narey and Sharon Milner

9 FORWARD PLAN FOR 2020

The forward plan for 2020 was approved.

10 MEETING DATES FOR 2020

The meeting dates for 2020 were approved as follows:

- Thursday, 13th February 2020, 4.00 – 5.00 p.m., Council Chamber
- Thursday, 11th June 2020, 4.00 – 5.00 p.m., Council Chamber
- Thursday, 1st October 2020, 4.00 – 5.00 p.m., Council Chamber
- Thursday, 10th December 2020, 4.00 – 5.00 p.m., Council Chamber

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

No.	Ref.	Action	Person
1.	6	Andrew confirmed that the figures were based on December school pupil numbers and he would distribute the details to schools. He also agreed to send each school details regarding the impact on their individual funding for moving 0.5% from schools block to the High Needs Block in 2020/21 and to show what the effects would be if the percentage increased to 1%.	Andrew Merry
2.	8	Jane to contact Steve Cox for a nomination for a Special Schools Deputy and Sharon to raise at the Early Years Meeting for a nomination for a PVI Deputy	Jane Narey and Sharon Milner

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The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 5.07 pm.

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RUTLAND SCHOOLS FORUM: ATTENDANCE RECORD

MEMBERS		24/01/19	11/04/19	13/06/19	10/10/19	13/02/20	11/06/20	01/10/20	10/12/20
Mr C Smith (Chair)	Academies	yes	yes	yes	no				
Mrs S Milner (Deputy Chair)	Academies	yes	no	yes	yes				
Mrs A Chambers	Academies	no	yes	yes	yes				
Mr S Cox	Special Schools	no	yes	yes	no				
Mrs M Darlington	PVI	yes	no	yes	no				
Mr P French	Dioceses				no*				
Mr B Gale	Trade Unions	no*	yes	yes	yes				
Mrs J Gilboy	Academies (Governors)				yes				
Mr R Gooding	Academies	no	no	yes	yes				
Mr R Shore	Post 16 Provision	yes	no	no	yes				
Mrs F Wilce	Maintained Schools	no	yes	yes	yes				
Mr S Williams	Academies	no	no	yes	yes				
DEPUTIES									
Mr A Menzies	Dioceses		NA	NA	yes				
Mr B Solly	Academies	no	no	NA	no				
Mrs C Johnston	Maintained Schools	yes	NA	NA	NA				
Mr J Harrison	Post 16 Provision	yes	no	no	NA				

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