

Warrington Schools Forum
2 March 2017
Minutes

Membership with differentiated voting rights ~ Total Membership of 25, of whom 21 are entitled to vote on funding formula issues

Sector Representation (21)	Appointed by the Council following election by:	Member	Dates and Attendance										Tenure Ends		
			22 March 2016	28 June 2016	4 October 2016	10 January 2017	2 March 2017	27 June 2017	3 October 2017	5 Dec 2017					
Maintained Nursery School Senior Staff (1)	Primary Headteachers Group	Jane Wilkie (JWil)	P	P	P	P	P							Jan 2020	
Special School Staff (1)	Special School Headteachers Group	Mike Frost (MF)	P	S	P	P	X							Jan 2020	
Special School Governor (1)	Governors Forum	Mike Evans (ME)	P	P	P	P	P							Jan 2020	
PRU (1)	PRU Management Board	Karen Thomson (KT)	A	S	A	S	X							Jan 2020	
Academy (4)	Academy Schools	Gwyn Williams (GW)	P	P	P	P	P							Jan 2020	
		Tim Long (TL)	A	P	P	P	P							Jan 2020	
		Judith Wright (JWri)	-	-	A	P	S								Jan 2020
		Andrew Bent (AB)	P	A	P	X	X								Jan 2020
Maintained Primary School Sector (9)	WAPH (5)	Andrew Redman (AR)	A	P	P	P	P							Jan 2020	
		Susan Robinson (SR)	-	-	P	P	A								Jan 2020
		Gary Cunningham (GC)	P	A	P	P	S								Jan 2020
		Lesley McGann (LMc)	-	-	P	A	P								Jan 2020
		Lyndsey Glass (LG)	P	P	P	P	P								Jan 2020
	Governors Forum (4)	Stuart Munslow (SM)	P	P	P	P	P								Jan 2020
		David Hart (DH)	P	P	A	P	P								Jan 2020
		Janet Lazarus (JL)	P	P	P	P	P								Jan 2020
		Peter Ashurst (PA)	P	P	P	P	P								Jan 2020
Maintained Secondary School Sector (3)	WASCL (2)	Bev Scott-Herron (BSH)	P	P	P	P	A							Jan 2020	
		Chris Hunt (CH)	-	-	-	P	A								Jan 2020

	Governors Forum (1)	Rebecca Knowles (RK)	X	X	X	X	X											Jan 2020
Private Voluntary and Independent Providers (1)	PVI Providers Forum	Ginny Taylor (GT)	P	A	P	S	P											Jan 2020
Representing																		
Non-Schools Members (4)		Member	22 March 2016	28 June 2016	4 October 2016	10 January 2017	2 March 2017	27 June 2017	3 October 2017	5 Dec 2017								Tenure Ends
Anglican Diocese (1)		Jacqui Wightman (JWig)	P	P	S	P	P											Jan 2020
Roman Catholic Diocese (1)		Tim Warren (TW)	P	X	X	A	P											Jan 2020
16-19 Institutions (1)		Gail Stonier (GS)	S	X	P	A	X											Jan 2020
Parent Governor (1)		TBC	-	-	-													Jan 2020
Independent Chair																		
Maureen Banner (MB)			P	P	P	P	A											Jan 2020
Representing																		
Warrington Borough Council																		
Interim Assistant Director Education		Hilary Smith (HS)	P	P	P	P	P											
Head of Service Pupil Achievement and Support		Lisa Morgan (LM)	-	P	P	A	A											
Chief Finance Officer		James Campbell (JC)	P	P	P	P	P											
		Garry Bradbury (GB)	P	P	P	P	P											
Executive Member for Children and Young People's Services		Cllr Jean Carter (CllrJC)	A	P	A	A	P											

Key

P ~ Present

A ~ Apologies

X ~ Absent with no apologies

S ~ Substitute

- ~ Vacancy

O ~ Observer

Non-School Member Representing Trades Unions

Shaun Everett (NUT & ATL)

Substitutes:

John Carlin representing Judith Wright; Jacqui Wightman representing Gary Cunningham

Observers:

Karina Middlehurst

Presenting an Item:

Angela Conway

Garry Bradbury

Minutes:

Louise Cooper

	Item
1.	<p>Apologies and Welcome</p> <p>The vice chairperson, Jacqui Wightman chaired the meeting in the absence of the chairperson.</p> <p>Best wishes were offered to the chairperson who could not be present at the meeting.</p> <p>Karina Middlehurst, Chair of Governors at Statham Community Primary School was observing the meeting.</p>
2.	<p>Minutes from the previous meeting and matters arising</p> <p>The minutes from the meeting held on 10 January 2017 were confirmed as an accurate record.</p> <p>All actions had been completed or would be followed up as part of the agenda.</p>
3.	<p>Proposals for Early Years Local Offer</p> <p>The purpose of the report was to provide an update on progress with the Portage Service; Early Years Graduated approach and SEND Support Plus and supporting vulnerable two year olds project in Warrington. The report looks at outcomes and associated spend in relation to the three project areas.</p> <p>Portage</p> <p>Portage offers intensive support for children with complex needs before they start nursery.</p> <p>Queries raised in relation to portage included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who decides which children are entitled to portage (multi agency panel following a referral) • What was the contribution from health (no contribution) • Is the impact of portage measured (soft data is available) • Is money being saved in the long term e.g children not needing to access other services (children are more ready for nursery following portage) <p>HS explained that portage is new to Warrington and is part of the early help offer. It may be too soon to evidence the difference that portage is making but it needs to integrate with the whole school offer in order to lead to better outcomes.</p> <p>Concerns were raised that there is overlap and some children are receiving portage and outreach and others are not receiving any support.</p> <p>SEND Support Plus funding</p> <p>The number of children supported through this funding was outlined in table 1 of the report.</p>

Queries raised included:

- Impact of the 30 free hours (the report requests that 50k of DSG is added to support the service)
- What is the criteria for support plus funding (strict criteria available on ask Ollie)

Vulnerable Two Year Olds

In Warrington approximately 40% of 2 year olds receive a free nursery place based on a set of financial characteristics of the family. In addition a multi- agency panel meet termly to allocate places to 2 year olds who are referred into the Early Help Division due to the wider needs of the family or child. These children do not qualify for a place based on the national criteria, however present with more complex needs and benefit significantly from accessing a free nursery place.

It was highlighted that the 40% figure seems to be high for Warrington and a concern was raised that these children would not necessarily receive support once they move out of this category.

Attention was brought to table 3 of the report which detailed how much money would be allocated over time periods to the three project areas.

Recommendations

- Schools Forum to note the report **NOTED**
- Schools Forum to agree the spend across the three project areas over a four year period.

The general consensus was that further consideration about the most effective way to move forwards was required before a decision could be made.

Action 1: The Early Years SEND report recommendations to be discussed at the Early Years Group.

4. Confirmed Schools Budgets: 2017/2018

Garry Bradbury presented the report which followed the report of 10 January 'DSG Budget Update' where proposals were tabled around how next year's Schools Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) would be allocated in its entirety to schools, forming budget allocations for the financial year 2017/18.

Schools Forum recommended amendments to the mainstream formula and made recommendations affecting the other Blocks, therefore the proposed funding schedule (previous report) required revision and completion. Complete individual school budgets were shown in the appendix.

A query was raised about the intention for the budget that would have been allocated to Future Tech. It was not yet clear what would happen to the budget but assumed that the money would remain in the DSG and be used to accommodate the children requiring a new school place.

	<p>Secondary colleagues raised the issue that taking pupils into year 11 is a challenge and the collective agreement is that the opening of free schools creates pressure. The academy trust is responsible for its finances and this was money destined for Warrington children.</p> <p>HS explained that a final decision had not been made about the closure of Future Tech although this was likely to happen. A meeting was due to take place with the Regional School Commissioner (RSC) to explore possible options.</p> <p>Action 2: HS to discuss the queries relating to finance with the RSC.</p> <p>Recommendations: Note the contents of the report NOTED Communicate the budget figures to their representative sectors NOTED FOR ACTION</p>
5.	<p>Formula Funding Working Group</p> <p>i. Feedback from meeting 16 Feb 2017</p> <p>This will be discussed under item 6 of the agenda.</p> <p>ii. Review of Membership and Term of Reference</p> <p>The following membership was agreed:</p> <p>Maureen Banner Tim Long Moirra Bryan Lyndsey Glass Gwyn Williams A Secondary governor tbc Janet Lazarus Pete Ashurst Stuart Munslow Mike Frost</p>
6.	<p>National Funding Formula – School Forum Response to Consultation</p> <p>The Warrington Schools Forum response to the National Funding Formula Consultation had been drafted and discussed in detail at the Formula Working Group meeting.</p> <p>Schools Forum was happy that their views had been fairly represented in the document subject to some amendments.</p> <p>Action 3: Garry Bradbury to circulate the final version of the consultation response to schools</p> <p>Action 4: Jacqui Wightman to submit the consultation response on behalf of Warrington’s School</p>

	<p>Forum.</p> <p>It was agreed that sector representatives could circulate the School Forum papers to their sector once they are received.</p>
7.	<p>Meeting schedule</p> <p>Tuesday 27 June 2017, 5.15pm</p> <p>Tuesday 3 October 2017, 5.15pm</p> <p>Tuesday 5 December 2017, 5.15pm</p> <p><i>(Conference Room, 1st Floor NTH)</i></p>