## SCHOOLS FORUM

A meeting of Schools Forum will be held on
Thursday, 10 November 2011
commencing at 9.00 am
The meeting will be held in the Ballroom, Oldway Mansion, Torquay Road, Paignton, TQ3 2TE

## Our vision is working for a healthy, prosperous and happy Bay

For information relating to this meeting or to request a copy in another format or language please contact:
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## SCHOOLS FORUM <br> AGENDA

1. Apologies/Changes to Membership
2. Minutes(Pages 1-4)
To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 30June 2011.
3. Matters Arising
4. Comparative Analysis of Torbay's 2011/12 Sestion 251 Budget Statement With Its Statistical Neighbours ..... (Pages 5 -
Schools Forum to note
5. School Funding Consultation
Schools Forum to comment. ..... (Pages 17 - ..... 18)
6. School Capital Funding Consultation ..... (Pages 17 -
Schools Forum to comment. ..... 18)
7. Funding Academy LACSEG Consultation ..... (Pages 17 -
Schools Forum to comment. ..... 18)
8. Statementing Contingency 2011/12 (Verbal ..... Report)
9. $\quad$ Notification of the 2011/12 Final Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)
Schools Forum to agree the recommendations. ..... 20)
10. School Forum Membership Vacancy
11. Consultation on the Torbay Special Schools Funding Formula for 2012/13(Verbal
Report)
12. Future Meeting Dates
BAR 2012
19 January 2012
1 March 2012
14 June 2012
Schools Forum
9 February 2012
22 March 2012
28 June 2012

## Agenda Item 2

# Minutes of the Schools Forum 

30 June 2011
-: Present :-
Roger Hughes (Chairman)
Iris Butler, Jeanne Cook, Russell Green, Anne Henderson, Colin Kirkman, Caroline Labrum, Councillor Chris Lewis, Maureen Penhaligon, Lisa Redfern and Daneian Rees

-:Also Present:-<br>Lisa Finn (Finance Manager)<br>Matt Redwood (Head of Schools Commissioning)

## 457. Apologies/Changes to Membership

Gill Battye (who was represented by Maureen Penhaligon), Nicola Bridgewater, Sue Foot, Cathy Gilfillan (who was represented by Daneian Rees), Phil Gregory, Mike Lock, Roy Pike, Nicholas Smith
458. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of the Schools' Forum held on 9 February 2011 and 4 May 2011 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

## 459. Matters Arising

The Head of Schools Commissioning advised the Forum that two primary school schools were to become academies, Eden Park on 1 July and Ilsham later in the term. (Minute 446 refers)

A Forum Member referred to Minute 446.6 and queried whether the Post LIG amount would be distributed to the secondary schools including those that had become academy schools, the Head of Schools Commissioning advised that the amounts distributed within the schools funding formula had been agreed and allocations to schools made subject to this formula in March. They cannot be changed or redistributed.

The Finance Manager also informed the Forum that she would be emailing schools with the DSG allocation which has been based on school census data.

The Chairman advised the Forum that the Formation of an Extended Services Review Group will conduct three meetings, the group will be reviewed. The third
meeting in July will be led by Richard Williams, Executive Lead Transformation, and Russell Green from Preston Primary School has agreed to attend. The Chairman would also like the group to report back at the next meeting of the Forum on the 10 November 2011. (minute no. 454.1)

## 460. Summary Report 2011/12 Schools Budget Returns - SBR1 Budget Plan/Statement of Funds

The Finance Manager advised the forum that the figures for the SBR1 Budget Return should been returned by the end of May. All schools were asked how they would be using the carry forward monies as the total comes to just over $£ 3$ million. This figure is fixed and has been reported nationally. Paignton Community College have returned a deficit of just under $£ 600,000$.

A Forum Member queried whether the figures were accurate as he had building works at his school and felt that the figures should reflect this.
The Finance Manager highlighted that the statements were as at year end but that schools had the facility to outline if there were particular sums allocated for set reasons. That said this would not affect the overall carry forward position. The School Finance Manager highlighted those columns which showed overall carry forwards plus those schools over the published thresholds, which are primary schools $8 \%$ and secondary schools $5 \%$. The Head of Schools Commissioning has written to the Chairs of Governors of Schools that were showing a large budget deficit surplus or deficit to discuss the reasons why.

The Finance Manager explained that the Analysis of Staffing Costs as a Percentage of 2011/12 Allocation tables were purely for information purposes. The figures are shown on the CFR website and have been verified by schools.

The Finance Manager stated that further budget return would be required in October.

## 461. Proposed Closure of Chestnut Primary School

The Head of Schools Commissioning advised the Forum that the Proposed Closure of Chestnut Primary School report is to be presented to Members at Council on 13 July 2011. Chestnut Primary School had a formula allocation of $£ 431,000$ which including the pupil premium for 2011/12 together with any carry forwards from the previous financial year created a final school allocation of $£ 520,000$.

The balance of 2011/12 funding would be used to fund pupils transferring to other Brixham schools and SEN pupils. The Head of Schools Commissioning explained that receiving Brixham schools would be allocated $£ 2,000$ per pupil and that statemented pupils would each receive an additional $£ 5,000$ per pupil to aid their transition and integration.

The Head of Schools Commissioning advised the Forum that Chestnut Primary School would be used throughout the summer. There would also be some residual costs associated with maintaining an empty building such as caretaking and security. The future use of the school would be subject to further review.

The closure of the school would save recurrent savings in the region of $£ 135,000$.

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## 462. 2010/11 Dedicated School Grant Underspend

The Head of Schools Commissioning informed the Forum that the 2010/11 Dedicated School Grant Underspend was £404,000.

The Head of Schools Commissioning outlined a proposal to the Forum to distribute this underspend to Local Authority maintained schools on the basis of eligible Free School Meal numbers. The Forum debated this proposal and supported the proposal and supported that the underspend should be distributed across all Local Authority maintained schools as additional funding within the 2011/12 financial year but outside their formula funding allocation as this was a single year underspend.

## 463. Early Years Single Funding Formula

The Head of Schools Commissioning advised that the Early Years Single Funding Formula was introduced in 2010/11. A working group including representatives from schools and PVIs met to discuss the implementation of the new formula. The group acknowledged the increase of 12.5 to 15 hours. The group did not recommend any changes to the current EYSFF which they felt were fit for purpose.

## 464. Job Evaluation Equal Pay Claims

The Head of Schools Commissioning provided the forum with an update on the Job Evaluation Equal Pay Claims. There were 48 equal pay in schools claims lodged. The final figure of the number of claims and total costs of agreed claims is not yet known.

## 465. Schools Financial Value Standard (SFVS)

The Finance Manager advised the forum that the consultation on Schools Financial Value Standard (SFVS) was replacing FMSiS consultation on which had now closed. The process should make schools challenge their budgetary procedures. Schools were asked to carry out self assessments which should be less cumbersome and time consuming than FMSiS.

## 466. Future Meeting Dates

The Forum agreed the following future meeting dates:
Thursday 10 November 2011

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## Agenda Item 4

$14^{\text {th }}$ October 10 BAR and $11^{\text {th }}$ November Schools Forum

## COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF TORBAY'S 2011/12 SECTION 251 BUDGET STATEMENT WITH ITS STATISTICAL NEIGHBOURS

## Background

Each Children's Services authority in England is required to complete the Section 251 return detailing their authority's spending plans for the forthcoming year.

This return covers all Dedicated School Grant funded activities and those centrally funded by Council tax and other grants. Therefore the spending plans for Schools, centrally retained activities and services related to looked after children are all included in this return.

The regulations for completing section 251 are very prescriptive but different L.As still interpret some aspects differently so this can give variations in allocations. It is also the case that individual arrangements in L.As can alter the figure on the Section 251 statement whilst maintaining practice, for example delegation and buy back of SEN funding reduces the level of spend on this line and increases delegation per pupil but in reality maintains the same practice.

## Scope of this Paper

Given that this return covers a wide range of Children's services, this analysis will focus only on ones that are incorporated within DSG. Therefore, central statistical analysis for central children's services such as looked after children services have been excluded.

## Commentary

The attached 4 pages should be read as follows:-
The analysis is on a per capita basis, for findings 1 to 8 the relevant population is 14,801 (pupils aged $3-19$ excludes Academy pupils). For findings 9 to 14 the relevant population is 18,887 (pupils $3-19$ includes Academy pupils). The exclusion of academy pupils may account for some differences when compared with the 10/11 benchmarking exercise.

The comparative analysis is with Torbay's statistical neighbours (SN);

Isle of Wight
Southend-on-Sea
Bournemouth

Plymouth Cornwall
Portsmouth Poole
Blackpool
Telford and Wrekin

North Lincolnshire

## 1. Column $\mathbf{1}$ - Individual Schools Budget

Torbay $£ 4,328 \quad$ Statistical Neighbours (SN) Average $£ 4,342$
This is allocated funded to all schools via Torbay's local funding formula and includes the mainstreaming of former standards fund grants.

## 2. Column 6 - Central Expenditure on education of Under 5s <br> Torbay £14 SN Average £18 <br> Early Years advisory workers

## 3. Column 8 - School Specific Contingencies <br> Torbay £65 <br> SN Average £24

The make up of this is largely determined in consultation with School's Forum and is subsequently allocated out to schools' budgets throughout the year. Torbay's figure has fallen by $£ 4$ since $10 / 11$.

This contingency includes funding for school improvement partnerships, secondary behaviour strategy, KS4 14-19 foundation learning, Business Rate inyear adjustments, KS1 class size contingency, special school contingency and funding for individual school support and improvement.

Please note that the costs of PFI and carbon reduction credits are accounted for in columns 42 and 40 respectively.

## 4. Column 18 - SEN Budgets excl PRU

Torbay £153 SN Average £235
This reflects the fact that Torbay delegates a large proportion of SEN funding via the Inclusion sub formula.

## 5. Column 22 - PRU/Behaviour Support/EOTAS

Torbay £164 SN Average £108
This reflects the high per place funding for this type of provision and the demand for one to one and small teaching groups.
6. Column 34 - Miscellaneous

Torbay £18 SN Average £4
This reflects DfE advice on where to allocate $£ 213 \mathrm{k}$ of Extended Services. This was an issue for 09/10 and it appears that other LAs are continuing to account for these grants elsewhere in the statement. Funding for TAPS and TGA is also included.
7. Column 42 - Capital Expenditure

Torbay £38 SN Average £zero
This reflects the $£ 150 \mathrm{k}$ revenue contribution to the capital programme and $£ 400 \mathrm{k}$ PFI Unitary Charge LA element.

## 8. Column 44 - Total Schools Budget

Torbay £4,896
SN Average $£ 4,890$
This is a total of all net budgets across all lines (the key ones are listed above)

## LOCAL AUTHORITY FUNDED SERVICES

## 9. Column 50 - Total Special Education <br> Torbay £37 <br> SN Average $£ 38$

This includes Educational Psychology, SEN assessment, therapies, monitoring of provision
10. Column 53-Home to School Transport - SEN

Torbay £60
SN Average £55
This reflects the geographical pattern of 3 special schools in Torbay and the requirement to transport their pupils to these settings. Torbay's figure has fallen by $£ 5$ since $10 / 11$.

## 11. Column 54 - Home to School Other

Torbay £36 SN Average £28
This cost reflects the Council's Home to School transport policy. This was changed for September 2011 which will impact upon this figure. This is a volatile demand led budget; effected by pressure on primary school places.

## 12. Column 62 - Home to College Other <br> Torbay £41 <br> SN Average £4

13. Column 65 - School Welfare

Torbay £21
SN Average £13
14. Column 66 - School Improvement

Torbay $£ 18$ SN Average $£ 45$
This reflects changes to this service in 2011/12.

## Concluding remarks

Although this government return has been in existence for many years, its content is always subject to change inline with central government changes including the Every Child Matters agenda and the formation of a Children's Services. As such the allocation of some functions to particular lines is still subjective and as can be seen can distort benchmarking data. However, on the whole the comparative analysis is a useful reflection of how Torbay's budgets are allocated.

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## Agenda Item 5

## Torbay Schools Forum $10{ }^{\text {th }}$ November

## A consultation on school funding reform: Proposals for a fairer system

On the $19^{\text {th }}$ of July the Secretary of State launched the second part of the consultation on school funding reform. The consultation document set out proposals for the mechanics of a new funding system, the contents of a new national formula and future funding arrangements for the Pupil Premium, early years provision and High Cost Pupils. It also clarified the responsibilities of local authorities, schools and academies in relation to central services.
http://www.education.gov.uk/consultations/index.cfm?action=conResults\&consultationId=1765\&external =no\&menu=3

The consultation outlined how a national formula could be used to distribute funding to LAs to ensure fairer funding across the country. It did not propose a national funding formula as such for schools although it does tighten the criteria for use in local funding formula. Torbay's formula will largely be unaffected with the exception of the Inclusion sub formula which uses deprivation indicies ( transience and prior attainment) which might not be permissible within potential changes. Greater change may be evident within the funding of high cost SEN pupils but we will need to see how this develops.

School Forum working party met and submitted a response.
Response deadline $11^{\text {th }}$ October

## Consultation on the basis for the decision on the appropriate amount of academies funding transfer for 2011-12 and 2012-13

On 19 July 2011, the DfE published its consultation document entitled Consultation on the basis for the decision on the appropriate amount of Academies Funding Transfer for 2011/12 and 2012/13. Closing date for responses was 16 August 2011. The DfE wanted local authorities to comment on the relative merits of certainty of funding compared with uncertainty of funding but with a distribution mechanism that more accurately reflects the numbers, location and growth of academies and Free Schools.

This consultation was in response to the DfE funding of academies LACSEG. It did not address the inherent, and arguably unfair, use of section 251 data for the calculation of the LACSEG , a purpose for which it was not designed.

## Implementation of the 2010-11 Review of Education Capital ( the James Report)

This consultation aimed to seek views on a number of key recommendations arising from the Independent Review of Education Capital by Sebastian James, published in April 2011, and the Government's response published in July 2011. It covered implications for the way the DfE allocates funding and manages its capital programme.

The consultation was intended to promote wider understanding of the James Review proposals and highlight common concerns to inform implementation. The aim was to ensure that the Department's
capital investment achieves maximum efficiency, whilst taking account of the needs of the end user e.g. schools, local authorities and other providers of education and services to children and young people.
Response deadline was $11^{\text {th }}$ October
http://www.education.gov.uk/consultations/index.cfm?action=conResults\&consultationId=1762\&external=no\&me $\underline{n u=3}$

## Agenda Item 9

## Emailed Note to Schools Forum 30th August 2011

## Notification of the 2011/12 Final Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)

## Purpose of the Report

In accordance with DFE School Finance Regulations, the final DSG has to be discussed at Schools Forum, thus allowing the Chief Finance Officer to confirm that this grant has been used to support the Schools Budget. The deadline for this confirmation is $30^{\text {th }}$ Sept 2011.

Therefore this note is to notify Schools Forum members of the final DSG for 2011/12 and its application.

## Unit Values

The DFE had already announced the DSG per pupil value for Torbay for 2011/12. This is the value which is then multiplied by the number of pupils to give the total DSG figure. The significant increase is due to the mainstreaming of the majority of standards fund and other grants. In overall terms the per pupil amount is unchanged from 2010/11.

| Year | Per Pupil Amount (£) | Increase \% |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $2010 / 11$ | 4,233 | $4.2 \%$ |
| $2011 / 12$ | 4,842 | $14 \%$ (incl stds fund grants) |

## Estimated and Final Pupil Numbers

When calculating school allocations in March each year, Torbay has to take a view on the number of pupils prior to the finalisation of the January census is complete and verified. For 2011/12, estimated pupils for Torbay are shown in the table below together with the final pupil numbers:-

| Pupil Type | Estimated Pupil <br> Numbers 20011/12 | Final Pupil <br> Numbers 2011/12 | $\mathbf{+ = \text { increase in }}$ <br> pupil numbers |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| School Census <br> Jan 2011 | 16,702 | 16,702 | 0 |
| Alternative <br> Provision | 58 | 60 | $\mathbf{+ 2}$ |
| Early Years | 593 | 592 | -1 |
| 3 year old <br> adjustment | 27 | 32 | $\mathbf{+ 5}$ |
| Total | $\mathbf{1 7 . 3 8 1}$ (rounded) | $\mathbf{1 7 , 3 8 7}$ (rounded) | $\mathbf{+ 6}$ |

## Estimated and Final DSG 2011/12

The table below demonstrates the increase in DSG funding of $£ 29 \mathrm{k}$.

| DSG | No of Pupils | Unit Value | DSG 2011/12 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Estimate | 17,381 | 4,842 | $£ 84,158,281$ |
| Final <br> 13.7 .11 | 17,387 | 4,842 | $£ 84,187,332$ |
| Increase | $\mathbf{+ 6}$ |  | $\mathbf{+ £ 2 9 , 0 5 1}$ |

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## Recommendations

- That the Schools Forum note the final DSG for $2011 / 12$ of $£ 84.187$ million
- That the increase in DSG funding of $£ 29 \mathrm{k}$ is allocated in the Schools General Contingency in the first instance and its application is discussed at the next Schools Forum on $10^{\text {th }}$ November 2011.

Lisa Finn<br>Finance Manager - Children's Services<br>Lisa.finn@torbay.gov.uk<br>01803208283<br>30th August 2011


[^0]:    Lisa Finn
    Finance Manager - Children's Services
    $10^{\text {th }}$ October 2010

