



Minutes of the Schools Forum

THURSDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2015

-: Present :-

Schools: Primary Roger Hughes, Debbie Main, Adam Morris and Jim Piper
Maintained: Academy Secondary: Sue Foot **Special/PRU** Mike Lock and Julie Shears **Early Years:** Tim Stevens **Governors: Primary** Maurice Codd
Secondary Academy: Clive Starr **14-19 Partnership: Officers:** Richard Williams, Director of Children's Services, Lisa Finn, Finance Manager,

(Also in attendance: Hayley Gribbin, Amanda Hayley and Nick Hollins notes)

1. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

The Chair requested that the Schools Forum Clerk co-ordinate the process of the election of a new Chair and Vice Chair for the forthcoming year.

Nominations for the position of Chair were sought and following a vote, it was agreed unanimously that Roger Hughes be re-elected as chair of the Schools Forum. It was also agreed to defer the appointment of the Vice-Chair until the next meeting of the Forum.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from James Evans, Dan Hallam, Mike Lock and Daneian Rees

3. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of the Schools' Forum held on 25th June 2015 were checked for accuracy and agreed as a true record.

4. Matters Arising

Item 4(ii) – Small Task and Finish Group: It was reported that there was now no need for a Task and Finish Group to be established as issues surrounding access to the "Turnaround" Fund for pupils with challenging behaviour would be dealt with in the context of the report from Debbie Pritchard in relation to Improving Outcomes for Vulnerable Children.

Item 4 (ii) – TESS Administrator: The Chair advised the Forum that the Administrator appointed to TESS has recently left the position and that the post would be advertised in due course.

Item 4(ii) – CAMHS Primary Mental Health Worker: The Chair advised the Forum that due to the current restructure that was ongoing in relation to the CAMHS Service, the two year funding of £15,000 from the DSG underspend was now not going to go ahead.

Item S(i) CAMHS Service Update: The Chair reported that it was now not necessary for any action to be taken with regards to referring the CAMHS Service to the Joint Commissioning Team.

Item S(ii) Education Safeguarding Service Update: It was reported that David Taylor, Chair of the Torbay Safeguarding Children Board had now met with Jane English in relation to Education representation on the Board.

5. Update on TESS - Consideration of Continuation of Service.

The Board received a written report updating members on the current activities being undertaken within the Torbay Education Safeguarding Service.

The Director of Children's Services updated the Board on an issue that has recently occurred within the Service and that as the service is now over 12 months into operation, it was the right time to undertake a review of the service.

It was agreed that the Director of Children's Services be requested to initiate a review of the Torbay Education Safeguarding Service and that the terms of reference for the review would include the issues of mainstreaming the service through the use of the DSG in the future.

6. Finance Reports

(i) F40 Fair Funding

Lisa Finn, Finance Manager submitted a report outlining the work that the F40 Group had submitted to Government in relation to addressing the imbalance between the "haves and have nots" in relation to school funding.

The Board was advised that the F40 Group represented a group of the lowest funded education authorities in England where government set cash allocations for primary and secondary pupils are the lowest in the country.

The report indicated that based on the revised formula which F40 were proposing for the School Block element of the DSG, compared to the existing DfE formula, Torbay would gain to the tune of £2.6m and also that it was unlikely that any changes to school funding would be implemented before April 2017.

The contents of the report were noted.

(ii) 2015/16 Dedicated Schools Grant - Forecast Outturn

Thursday, 15 October 2015

Lisa Finn, Finance Manager submitted a report updating the Forum on the current position with regards to the Forecast outturn of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG).

The Board was advised that the DSG funded activities were forecast to underspend by £275k.

The Chair invited Forum Members to provide suggestions as to what the projected underspend could be spent on to the next meeting of the Forum, due to be held on 3rd December 2015.

It was agreed that the contents of the report be noted.

- (iii) Statementing Funding for 14/15 and 15/16

Lisa Finn, Finance Manager submitted a report updating the Forum on current position with regards to the Statementing/Education, Health and Care Plan Funding for 14/15 and 15/16.

It was agreed that the contents of the report be noted.

- (iv) High Cost Pupils and Joint Funded Placements Annual Update

Lisa Finn, Finance Manager submitted a report updating the Forum on the Annual position with regards to the High Cost SEN Placements.

It was agreed that the contents of the Board be noted.

7. CAMHS Primary Mental Health Service in Schools

The Forum received a report from Jackie Olsen, Primary Mental Health Work Team updating members on the activities of the Safeguarding and CAMHS Steering Group in relation to the progress of the Primary Mental Health Service in Schools.

The report provided a summary on the recent activities in relation to the SACSG, the Primary Mental Health Work Service User Feedback Summary, the Primary Mental Health Work Service User Feedback and the CAMHS Monthly Report

It was agreed that the contents of the report be noted.

8. Improving Outcomes for Vulnerable Pupils (10 VP)

The Forum received a report updating members on the work that is currently being undertaken with regards to improving outcomes for vulnerable learners of Torbay at Reduced Costs.

It was agreed that the contents of the report be noted.

9. Torbay Public Services Trust.

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report on the recent developments with regards to the establishment of a Public Services Trust and how schools could become engaged with organisation.

The Forum was advised that the Torbay Public Services Trust is a key element of the Department for Education DfE funded SWIFT project which has brought £1.25m to transform systems, delivery and the workforce. It will also see Children's Services delivery staff integrated within the new Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust by March 2017 with a vision to develop a single co-ordinated local offer of help and support for and with children and families in Torbay using shared skills and assets to improve their outcomes.

The Board was informed that an opportunity existed for the STITCH project to be used as a potential pilot project between schools and the new Trust.

It was agreed that the contents of the report be noted and the Director of Children's Services be requested to submitted a report to the next meeting of the Forum outlining proposals for the STITCH pilot and if necessary seeking approval for an allocation of funding from the 14/15 DSG underspend.

10. Future Meeting Dates

3rd December 2015 09:00-11:30 Room 3, Mezzanine Floor, Tor Hill House

7th January 2016 09:00-11:30 Room 3, Mezzanine Floor, Tor Hill House

10th March 2016 09:00-11:30 Room 3, Mezzanine Floor, Tor Hill House

1 **Election of Chair and Vice Chair**

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