



## Torbay Schools' Forum

### Minutes of the meeting held on 9 February 2011

#### -: Present :-

Roger Hughes (Chairman)

Gill Battye, Iris Butler, Nicola Bridgewater, Jeanne Cook, Sue Foote, Phil Gregory, Russell Green, Ann Henderson, Caroline Labrum, Mike Lock, Phillip Mantell, Roy Pike, Lisa Redfern, Daneian Rees, Nicholas Smith, Councillor Anna Tolchard

#### -: Also present :-

Colin Kirkman (Westlands School)  
Maureen Penhalagon (Torquay Community College)  
Bob Owers (Churston Ferrers Grammar School)  
Lisa Finn (Finance Manager)  
Amanda Haley (Principal Accountant – Schools)  
Matt Redwood (Assistant Director Resources)  
Claire Shiers (Principal Accountant)  
Richard Williams (Executive Head Transformation)

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#### **445. Minutes**

445.1 The Minutes of the meeting of the Schools' Forum held on 11 November 2011 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### **446. 2011/12 Dedicated Schools Grant – Allocation of Previously Ring Fenced Grants**

446.1 The Assistant Director Resources advised the Forum that the 2011/12 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) included a range of grant income in the Guaranteed Unit of Funding (GUF). The GUF is the 2010/11 DSG per pupil amount plus a per pupil amount for the appropriate 2010/11 grants rolled forward into 2011/12. In 2011/12 a number of grants that had previously been allocated separately were included in the GUF for the calculation of the DSG and also fall within the scope of the School Finance (England) Regulations 2011.

446.2 The Assistant Director Resources explained that a number of the grants were to be allocated the same way as previous years however it was suggested that £200,000 of the Extended Services – Sustainability grant could be delegated to schools via pupils registered as eligible for free school meals (FSM).

446.3 A number of Forum Members had differing views, with some being of the opinion that a lot of the grants were already allocated via FSM which may not be the best deprivation indices to use and would prefer to see the Extended Services –

Sustainability allocated on a per pupil basis. In contrast some Members considered FSM to be the better method to allocate the grant as it helped to address social deprivation and had been linked to attainment levels. It was suggested that Extended Services - Subsidy could be allocated on a FSM basis with Extended Services – Sustainability being allocated on a per pupil basis.

- 446.4 The Assistant Director Resources advised that the School Standards Grant was allocated using two formulae calculations with schools receiving the higher of the two. Formula A was a lump sum of £12,000 plus £120 or £130 per pupil. Formula B was historic per pupil allocations inflated. Historic circumstances have led to some schools having much higher per pupil amounts than other schools for calculating formula B. Officers suggested allocating the School Standards Grant using formula A, this would result in some secondary and primary schools experiencing little change with the exception of Brixham C of E Primary School and Kings Ash Primary School, as these schools had significantly higher per pupil amounts due to historic circumstances.
- 446.5 The Forum noted that the School Development Grant was formed in 2007 and combined a range of 11 grants, the majority of this grant allocation would remain the same with two exceptions AST funding and Post Leadership Incentive Grant (LIG). It was proposed that the outreach element of AST would remain centrally until outreach work was commissioned.
- 446.6 With regards to Post LIG the Assistant Director Resources informed the Forum that the proposal was to change the distribution of this element of funding. The secondary Post LIG funding that was received by Torquay Community College (TCC) and Westlands School. TCC received Post LIG funding as the school had received LIG funding to help the school move above the floor targets for KS4 results. Westlands received Post LIG funding of £125,000 as its FSM percentage was above 20% in January 2007, other schools who in subsequent years may have higher than 20% FSM did not receive any funding. The report proposed the £240,000 for Post LIG funding be distributed across all secondary schools based upon FSM numbers. The Forum suggested an amendment to the proposal that in the first year 50% post LIG funding was distributed to TCC and Westlands and 50% allocated to all secondary schools via FSM. In 2012/13 all post LIG funding would be allocated via FSM.
- 446.7 The Chairman advised the Forum that officers would report the views of Members to Carol Tozer, People Commissioner, who would be making the decision on grant allocation.

#### **447. 2011/12 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) – Area of Pressure**

- 447.1 The Assistant Director Resources advised the Forum that the DSG would not receive an inflationary increase which therefore created areas of pressure such as primary off site games, additional places at Mayfield and Coombe Pafford. He also advised that in April 2011 there would be three secondary academies and four primary academies, he explained that it would be prudent to make provisions for other schools converting mid year and that a specific budget for this would mean that any in year budget adjustments would not be necessary.

**448. 2011/12 Dedicated Schools Grant – Areas of Potential Reduction**

- 448.1 The Forum noted and agreed the proposals for budget reductions within the DSG which were to:
- i) reduce the Secondary Behaviour and Attendance funding from £363,000 to £200,000;
  - ii) reduce central recharges mainly those that relate to insurance by £150,000
  - iii) reduce funding for union activities by £5,000
  - iv) reduce the revenue contribution to capital repairs and maintenance from £200,000 to £150,000;
  - v) reduce the matched funding element of the Primary Strategy Central Coordination and Secondary Strategy Central Coordination by £280,000 as these funds are now included in the DSG via the GUF.

**449. Consultation on Changes to the Torbay Schools Funding Formula for Primary and Secondary Schools**

- 449.1 The Forum agreed the changes to the funding formula for primary and secondary schools.

**450. Consultation on Changes to the Torbay Schools Funding Formula for Special Schools**

- 450.1 The Forum agreed the changes to the funding formula for special schools.

**451. Proposed Changes to the Financial Regulations in the Scheme for Financing Primary, Special and Secondary Schools 2011/12**

- 451.1 The Forum was informed that officers had not received any responses from the consultation and therefore the proposed changes were recommended for approval. Agreed.

**452. DSG 2010/11 Balances for Equal Pay and Redundancies**

- 452.1 The Assistant Director Resources advised the Forum that there was a reserve of £805k allocated in the DSG for equal pay claims and informed Members that three claims had been settled so far. With regards to the redundancies he advised that there were three secondary schools and two primary schools affected.

**453. DSG 2010/11 Projected Outturn**

- 453.1 The Assistant Director Resources advised that the DSG 2010/11 was expected to break even, with the academy re-couplement being less than expected. He further advised that six years of back energy costs for PFI schools had been negotiated by Kevin Atkinson and Kate Brampton as a result they were considerably less than the provider had originally requested. The Forum requested their thanks and appreciation of the work Kevin and Kate had undertaken be recorded.

**454. Formation of an Extended Services Review Group**

- 454.1 The Executive Head Transformation advised Members that the Extended Services Review Group would be responsible for ensuring that the Extended Services Grants were being utilised affectively. The membership was agreed as Gill Battye, Colin Kirkman, Russell Green and Roger Hughes.

**455. Formation of an Early Years Single Funding Formula Review Group**

- 455.1 The Assistant Director Resources informed the Forum that the Early Years Single Funding Formula Review Group would be responsible for reviewing and monitoring the figures and affect of the formula during the forthcoming year. The membership was agreed as Phillip Mantell, Jeanne Cook, Ann Henderson and Nicola Bridgewater.

**456. Future Meeting Dates**

- 456.1 The Forum agreed that the 3 March 2011 meeting would be cancelled and agreed the following dates:

Wednesday 4 May 2011, 9 a.m. in the Ballroom, Oldway Mansion, Paignton

Thursday 30 June 2011, 9 a.m. in the Cecil Room, Oldway Mansion, Paignton

Thursday 10 November 2011, 9 a.m. in the Ballroom, Oldway Mansion, Paignton

Chairman

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