

## Hampshire Schools Forum

**Date** 9 December  
**Time** 2pm  
**Location** Ashburton Hall, Winchester

### Present

*Nursery* Joan Kerr  
*Primary* Kishor Patel, Ian Waine, Fiona Wyeth  
*Secondary* Chris Anders, Keith Atton, Shirely Nellthorpe (Chair) , Chris Sermon

### *Special*

*Education Centre*

*Academy*

*EY*

*TLP*

*Diocese*

*Post-14*

*Also, Present*

Pete Main, Hilary Manton, Kathryn Marshall, Keith Norman

Faye Milward, Jo Ayres

David Wolley

*Cllr Forster, Stuart Ashley, Natalie Smith, Andrew Minall, Steve Parsons, Zoe Daniels Anita Blackwell (clerk)*

### Apologies

*Primary*

*Special*

*Academy*

*EY*

*Education Centre*

*TLP*

*Post 14 and YSS*

*board*

Jason Anderson, Richard Austin, Peter Bassett, Claire Hope, John Littlewood, Sefton Lucas, Stacey Parsons

Roy Cleaver, Justine Innes, Marijke Miles

Mark Maranda

Diane Wycherley

Chris Bayliss

## 1 Welcome and apologies

Apologies received and recorded as above

Meeting was confirmed to be just quorate – the continuation of face to face meeting will be considered by the chair in the new year.

Agenda slightly adjusted to allow for guests to depart.

## 2 Declaration of interests

None.

### 3 Minutes of the last meeting held on 8 October 2024

All in agreement that the minutes of the last meeting are a true and accurate record of the meeting.

### 4 County Supplies Forthcoming Framework Agreements Affecting Schools – Zoe Daniels

Report circulated with agenda.

Questions raised

- **Inflation is continuing to have an impact on purchase prices, however tendering activity in 2023/24 produced savings of just over 1% across a total value of £5.8 million.** It was clarified that this saving is passed back onto customers. Zoe to provide information on how the saving on the framework agreements show on the costs of running the business.

**Recommendations agreed 6.11 – 6.14**

- Notes the schedule of tendering activity and collaborative framework agreements to be undertaken by County Supplies.
- Determines whether the Committee requires additional information on any of the frameworks due to be let as shown in Appendix 1.
- Confirms that it wishes this report to be circulated to members of the Schools Forum. – *Deleted as recommendation relevant to Primary and Secondary Resource Committee.*
- Receives a further update on forthcoming framework agreements of relevance to schools in twelve months' time.

### Procurement Framework Arrangements Affecting Schools – Steve Parsons

Report circulated with agenda,

**Recommendations agreed 3.1 – 3.3 approved**

- Notes the schedule of tendering activity and collaborative framework agreements to be undertaken by HCC Strategic Procurement.
- Confirms that it wishes this report to be circulated to members of the Schools Forum.
- Receives a further update on available and forthcoming framework agreements of relevance to schools in nine or twelve months' time. (Sept)

*Forward  
Plan*

Questions raised

**Do schools access regularly?** Confirmed that there was a mixture of frequent and ad hoc. All in the meeting confirmed that schools do have knowledge of how to access.

## **Schools Budget update 25/26- Andrew Minall**

Report circulated with agenda

### **Questions/points to note**

- **How is fall in role defined?** AM confirmed that specific details are included in the policy pack and that it is based on forecast numbers not actuals.
- Exceptional circumstances – spilt site funding not included as a separate formula.
- National insurance – additional funding will be provided based on costs calculated at a national level, details not available until March – covers direct staff costs – doesn't cover wider supply chain.

### **Recommendations agreed**

- It is recommended that Schools Forum support the proposed approach to setting the mainstream school funding formula for 2025/26 as outlined in paragraph 3.6.
- It is recommended that Schools Forum support the proposal to disapply the regulations in relation to exceptional premises costs for a small number of schools.
- It is recommended that Schools Forum support the proposed approach to allocating funding within the High Needs Block as outlined in the High Needs Block section of the report.
- It is recommended that Schools Forum approve the Central School Services block in line with the DfE allocation.
- It is recommended that Schools Forum approve 'in principle' the allocations of the central provision funded by maintained schools and de-delegation budgets.

## **5 Dedicated Schools Grant Deficit Management Plan Update – Natalie Smith**

Presentation circulated with agenda.

### **Questions/points to note**

- Unmissable learning experience/ attendance discussed.
- Is Hampshire doing anything to help with the allocation of EHCPs between schools? NS explained that parental request is the driving force and is protected in law. Need to help schools be better balanced in advising parents. Cllr Forster explained that recent briefings to MPs have highlighted the issues, and that legislative change/ flexibility needed. Biggest influence would be a change in the inspection regime as don't currently look at percentages of EHCPs in areas/school discrepancies
- Hampshire has had an increase in parents paying for legal advice to support an EHCP application.

The forum noted and acknowledged the valuable work that is being done.

All in agreement – with the spending to save funding for 2025/6, a total of £762k, comprised of:

- **£432k** to deliver workstreams that embed early interventions, preventing escalation of need to an EHCP and improving confidence in SEN support.
- **£49k** to deliver workstreams that improve post 16 outcomes.
- **£280k** to deliver workstreams that improve educational engagement and inclusion in mainstream schools
- **£279k** of ongoing funding

## **6 Strategic detail of some of the less well known challenges facing the Hampshire education system – Natalie Smith**

### **Presentation shared with the agenda**

Question/ points to note

- It was commented that the briefing was impressive and reassuring that the issues schools are dealing with day to day are noted and reflected
- Presentation can be shared.
- Some MP's who have seen the briefing are already raising questions in the house/ attending f40 meeting.

### **AOB**

Happy Christmas to all.

### **Next meeting**

21 January 2025 – Virtual Meeting.