

Hampshire Schools Forum

Date 27 March 2025
Time 2pm
Location Online via MS Teams

Present

Nursery	Joan Kerr
Primary	Peter Bassett, Sefton Lucas, Stacey Parsons, Claire Hope, Fiona Wyeth, Ian Waine John Littlewood, Tina Nowell
Secondary	Chris Sermon, Keith Atton, Chris Anders, Paul German
Special	Shirley Nellthorpe
Education Centre	Roy Cleaver, Marijke Miles
Academy	Hilary Manton, Kathryn Marshall, Mark Maranda, Keith Norman, Pete Main
EY	Diane Wycherley
TLP	Jo Ayres, Susan Kent
Post 16/Diocese	Sara Russell

Also Present Cllr Forster, Cllr Chadd, Natalie Smith, Andrew Minall, Anita Blackwell (Clerk) Antonia Perkins . Marie Manneville

Apologies

Primary	
Secondary	
Academy	
Special	Justin Innes
Other Members	

1	Welcome and apologies.	
	<p>Apologies received and recorded as above</p> <p>Meeting commenced with Shirley Nellthorpe formerly announcing that she was stepping down and asked for all to support Chris Anders in taking over the chair role. All in agreement</p> <p>Gratitude was expressed to Shirley for all her years of service and dedication and wishing her well for the future.</p> <p>Vice Chair to be elected at next meeting.</p>	Agenda
2	Declarations of Interest	
	No change since previous meeting	

3	Minutes of the last meeting held on 12 January 2025	
	<p>All in agreement that the minutes of the last meeting are a true and accurate record of the meeting.</p> <p>To note that Sefton Lucas' apologies had been omitted from previous minutes when they were tendered.</p>	
4	Independent School Appeals Service review - update on emerging recommendations – Antonia Perkins/ Marie Manneville	
	<p>Presentation circulated with agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AP explained that the Primary and Secondary Resources committee has raised a couple of points regarding time limits for an appeal and location • No provision in code to set a time limit – can <i>suggest</i> guidance but not able to stipulate that must be only 30 mins etc. • Using of school premises – this could be possible, but preference is to use own school and this is not possible due to the nature of the hearings. <p>Questions/points raised</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will this include IRP as well as admission appeals? No these would not be appropriate to do using a hybrid approach. • Is there an opportunity to use AI for notetaking? Currently being reviewed to see if possible and exploring with legal. Although there may be limitations due to confidentiality and parental consent to being recorded. • What is the response from the clerks? Views are being taken onboard • To note that the notes of an appeal hearing aren't a formal record in the same way as minutes – the formal record is the decision letter. • To come back in Autumn term (second meeting) to report back on lessons learned. 	Agenda
5	Scheme for financing schools – Andrew Minall	
	<p>Report circulated with agenda</p> <p>Questions/Points raised</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 67 responses received in total some of which were duplicated and a number were anonymous. Overall general concern and no strong support for option although recognised pressures faced. • After feedback from resource committee there was a further compromise offered to apply to all maintained schools. <i>First £60,000 of school's surplus balance</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1% when the Bank of England Base Rate is 3% and above ○ 0.75% when the Bank of England Base Rate is between 2% and below 3% 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>0.5% when the Bank of England Base Rate is between 1.5% and 2%</i> <p><i>All remaining balances 0.5% when Bank of England Base Rate is above 1.5%</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggestion made that maybe a better compromise would be a 50/50 split between LA and schools • Reminder that the LA does not charge for any banking (and this could be as high as £40k if school having to pay themselves) • General view of secondary headteachers reported to be that a little is better than nothing • Votes made via a show of hands. <p>Thirteen “maintained” (out of a possible 21) were in agreement with the proposal (as above in italics)</p>	
6	Policy Pack Update – Andrew Minall	
	<p>Report circulated prior to meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growth discussed • Notional SEN Budget • Budget setting process increased from 500k to £1m. and look to derive percentage retrospectively at end of year. • All in agreement with the minor changes as below <p>1.1 <i>The policy has been updated to include the pre and post opening funding allocations for special schools.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Falling rolls – The eligibility criteria has been amended to reflect changes to the DfE mandatory inclusion regarding the use of school capacity data (SCAP) to evidence future need of places</i> • <i>New schools – The one-off fixed-rate of payment has been increased from £67,000 to £77,000 to maintain alignment with the rate of funding provided by the DfE to the local authority. The associated phasing of this allocation has also been updated.</i> • <i>High Needs funding in mainstream schools – The guidance has been updated to reflect the transition to EHCPs being funded via a top-up banding framework</i> 	
7	Hampshire Local Area Partnership and Transforming SEND update	
	<p>Presentation circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Key assistance that Schools Forum members can give</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information sharing across all setting and partners about the LA strategy and the work of Transforming SEND • Share information about services and support available. 	

8	AOB	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarification on result of vote for item 5 above given. • Membership update – work in progress and still looking to fill some vacancies which hope to have completed over the summer term. - Natalie expressed her appreciation for all those that step into the roles. <p>Future agenda item</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smaller schools funding – viability of schools • Standing agenda item – devolution update • Useful video from Leader of HCC Cllr Nick Adams-King - Devolution and local government reorganisation About the Council Hampshire County Council 	
	<p><u>Next meeting:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 May 2025 – CANCELLED • Monday 7 July 2025 – 2pm – ASHBURTON HALL 	