

Southend Education Board (EB), Resources Sub Group (RSG)

5th October 2021, 4.15-5.30, (held virtually on-line through MS teams)

DRAFT Minutes of the meeting

Membership of the sub group for Resources	(nominations received) representation
<p>3 nominations from the Education Board (Headteacher/governor)</p> <p>4 other members nominated from the four associations</p> <p>1 school business manager nominated from the RSG</p> <p>Council Officer representation as required for the papers</p>	<p>Robin Bevan (secondary) CHAIR Jane Ladner (secondary, governor) Stuart Reynolds (secondary)</p> <p>Vacant (primary) Vicky Wright (early years) Jackie Mullan (special) Anthony McGarel (post 16)</p> <p>Simon Oxenham (SHSB)</p> <p>Paul Grout (Senior Finance Business Partner)</p> <p>cc. Brin Martin (Director of Education) Gary Bloom (Head of SEND) Cathy Braun (Head of Access and Inclusion) Elaine Hammans (Head of Early Years)</p>

Time	Agenda item	Decision? Action
4.15	<p>Membership Apologies</p> <p>And council officer representation as required for papers</p> <p>Officers present:</p> <p>Paul Grout & Cathy Braun (in attendance)</p>	<p>No apologies – full attendance on current membership</p> <p>Noted – Jane has given her apologies in advance for the next 30th November RSG mtg, due to a prior diary School related commitment.</p>
	<p>Membership Vacancies</p>	<p>Nick Booth former Primary representative has confirmed his resignation from the RSG. The RSG thank Nick for his willingness to serve and now have a Primary representative vacancy.</p>

		<p>Action: Robin will first offer the primary vacancy to an EB primary representative member. If no EB members wish to volunteer. RSG will seek directly a Primary representative with a fair process for opportunity to join.</p>
4.20	<p>Minutes of the last meeting 08.06.21</p> <p>Any matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda</p>	<p>No amendments. Minutes agreed and now Final.</p> <p>Paul fed back that the RSG has submitted its response in relation to the DfE July 21 consultation for a Hard National Funding Formulae setting individual school budgets.</p> <p>The DfE have also announced at this time, there will now be 2 further consultations that the RSG have agreed to respond on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A further consultation on the HARD NFF 2) A further consultation on High Needs funding following the national SEND review.
4.25	<p>DSG 2022/23 budget planning and 2021/22 budget update</p> <p>(DRAFT Paper attached)</p> <p>Officer Lead: Paul Grout</p>	<p>Key discussion items:</p> <p>On Appendix 2 - Why are some individual schools above a straight 3% uplift per pupil on their 22/23 allocation? Paul confirmed it is a circa 3% increase where applicable through those core NFF factors. Simon also confirmed this was feeding through correctly on the formula, and linked to certain deprivation indices.</p> <p>With the current commitment spend on Central block commitments why is this flat with no inflationary increases? Paul confirmed these are contributions to joint funded council initiatives and therefore any inflation applied will also just unwind their remaining affordably faster. They are also contributions from an historic DfE DSG fixed grant funding source now unwinding, so inflation was also never affordable on that grant source.</p>

When are we expecting to hear any DfE funding announcements for updated 2021/22 Early Years allocations? Paul confirmed as referenced in the paper this is expected by the DfE in November 2021.

For 2022/23 as High Needs also has additional funding when will this be considered for applicable schools. Paul confirmed as referenced in the paper, the funding is applicable for the 2022/23 financial year, and will be as per annual agreement considered in the June 2022 EB high need paper for the start of the 2022/23 academic year.

Paper amendments agreed:

Within Recommendation 2.1.1 – make clear this is in relation to mainstream schools only.

With 3.4 – make reference that the DfE are, as part of the recent Hard NFF consultation, looking to also move maintained schools to funding and accounting on an academic year as opposed to the current financial year system.

Within 11.7 – make reference that the proposed minimum reserve balance %'s for Early Years and High Needs are subject to annual review in light of observed volatility and accrued levels of balance.

Within recommendations 2.2.2 and section 11.8:

- That any cumulative use of reserve balances below £50,000 (in any one financial year), has LA officer approval to proceed on the basis this is reported back through to EB.
- On any single item that is above £50,000 or where any cumulative use of reserve

		<p>balances fall above £50,000 then EB approval is firstly required. If the item is urgent, it is recommended this can be given by an urgent virtual EB agreement but with a subsequent note to EB for formal minuting.</p>
5.30	<p>AOB</p> <p>FYI only:</p> <p>Date of next meetings and current forward plan</p> <p>Future RSG meeting dates – MS Teams or Southend High School for boys 4:15 pm to 5.30/6.00 pm current planned papers ahead of Education Board (EB):</p> <p>December 2021 (30th November ahead of EB date tbc)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DSG 2022/23 Final Budget planning and Forecast Outturn 2021/22 <p>June 2022 (Date tbc ahead of EB date tbc)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DSG Final Outturn 2021/22 • DSG High Need detailed budget allocations 2022/23 <p>Meeting close</p>	