

## Schools Forum Schools Funding Working Group

### Minutes – 20 February 2012

**Present:** Martin Watson, Phil Cooch, John Hawkins, John Kimberley, Judith Finney, Catriona Williamson, Phil Cooke, Colin Kay, Lorraine Nowlan, Andrew Bridewell, Judith Finney, Neil Baker

**Apologies:** Elizabeth Williams, Julia Cramp

		Action
1	<p><b>Minutes from Previous Meeting</b></p> <p>The note of the meeting of 15 November had been discussed at Schools Forum</p> <p>PC reported that the issue of multiple users on school sites had been referred to the Climate Change team with a view to them offering guidance to schools.</p>	
2	<p><b>Teacher's Unions Facility Time Costs</b></p> <p>LN presented a preliminary report on the above. The group asked if it would be possible to identify how much an academy would receive to perform this function themselves. Clarity was also sought as to why the budget was always under spent and whether so many representatives were needed from each union for each of the meetings.</p> <p>LN reported that there was further work to undertake to finalise the report including contacting each academy to seek sign up to the proposals. The group questioned whether there was enough time to implement the new arrangements in 12-13.</p> <p>PC stated that two LA s had contacted the DfE to have this central budget line removed from its LACSEG calculation. The group asked if the LA could similarly seek the DfEs agreement for 12-13.</p>	<p>LN</p> <p>EW/PC</p>
3	<p><b>Budget 2012-13</b></p> <p>PC updated the group on the latest DSG estimate for 12-13 and the forecast under spend for 11-12. It was noted that the amount available for investment was now £1.359m. This was due to a combination of the forecast under spend in 11-12 being reduced and the recent DfE confirmation that it would now fund the final instalment of the 10-11 standards fund, for which a debtor had been provided in the LAs accounts. This meant that the uncommitted 10-11 underspend could now be dealt with. The group also considered a paper presented by CK on a new proposal for a transitional fund for the YPSS.</p> <p>The group agreed to recommend the following investment proposals to Schools Forum:</p>	

	YPSS Provision for excluded pupils £0.400 Remove 0.19% budget reduction £0.520 Retained contingency £0.439  The group asked for a letter to be sent to the two academies that had failed to send in their Pupil data stating that they were delaying the calculation of school budgets. NB & Chair of WASSH to sign letter.	EW/PC
4	<b>Variations to the MFG 12-13</b>  The group agreed with the proposals set out in PC s paper.	PC
5	<b>Treatment of PPG at year end.</b> PC presented a paper on options for dealing with the PPG in the context of the Controls on Surplus Balances Scheme.  The following was agreed: PPG to be excluded from the calculation of a schools permitted revenue balance threshold. Any unspent PPG at year end to be reported on the Intended Use of Revenue Balances return under section 2 as a permitted ring fenced grant. Schools would not be required to provide any explanation in support of unspent PPG .	PC
6	<b>Free School Meals Pool</b>  PC reported that the forecast balance on the above pool would be c£157k at the end of 11-12. It was agreed to distribute the balance based on Option 3 as set out in the paper.	PC
7	<b>AOB</b> None.	
8	Date of Next Meeting to be agreed and circulated.	