

**Schools Forum SEN/Social Deprivation Working Group****Minutes – 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2010**

**Present:** Liz Williams, Judith Finney, Sarah O'Donnell, Avis Ball, John Hawkins, Trevor Daniels, Julie Le Masurier, Phil Cooch

**Apologies:** Julia Cramp, Phil Beaumont, Karina Kulawik

		<b>Action</b>
1	<p>Minutes from Previous Meeting The minutes from the meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> June 2010 were agreed.</p> <p>It was noted that there is currently no nominated member of the group from WASSH and also that this group is generally not as well attended as the Schools Funding Working Group. A discussion took place as to whether 2 separate working groups were necessary or whether all business related to funding issues should be considered by a single group. The advantage of a single group could be that discussions take place in the knowledge of the overall funding context however the potential disadvantage could be the lack of time to consider SEN issues in sufficient detail.</p> <p>It was agreed that a piece of work should be carried out to establish the roles of the working groups so that this could be considered further</p>	EW
2	<p><b>Resource Bases – Pupil Moderation</b> JLM presented a paper to update the group on the proposed process for moderation of pupils within Specialist Learning Centres (Resource Bases).</p> <p>To date representatives from the Speech &amp; Language Centres have met and been through the moderation process. Feedback from those who participated had been positive. Staff from Complex Needs Centres were scheduled to meet on 29<sup>th</sup> September and the Autism Centres in early November.</p> <p>The outcome of the moderation in each type of centre will now be fed in to needs led funding models which are under development. The models and potential cost implications will be brought to the December meeting of Schools Forum. TD confirmed to the group that it was expected that funding made available through the closure of some Complex Needs Centres could be used to support the new funding model.</p>	
3	<p><b>Key Stage 2 Data</b> Key Stage 2 attainment data is used as a driver for the special educational needs allowance (SENA) funding in secondary schools. JLM informed the group that 8 primary schools in Wiltshire had boycotted the KS2 SATS, affecting data for 278 pupils. 6 of the schools are Trowbridge Schools and 1 is a major feeder for Matravers so there are 3 secondary schools disproportionately affected by this lack of data.</p>	

	<p>It was proposed to use teacher assessment data for pupils in those 8 schools. The LA currently does not have teacher assessment for 1 of those schools and the school has been contacted.</p> <p>The SEN Group recommended that teacher assessment is used for these 8 schools and that an explanation is included in the notes that accompany school funding certificates for 2011/12 to state that this has been the case.</p> <p>The group also stressed that Head Teachers needed to be aware that a boycott of SATS could have an impact on funding in the following year.</p>	
4	<p><b>SEN Formula Review – Primary Delegation</b></p> <p>The group considered the recommendations of the Primary Delegation Working Group. It was noted that the working group had been a Task &amp; Finish Group and had now disbanded.</p> <p>Recommendations were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the funding currently delegated (up to 5 hours NPA) should be incorporated in to the new formula;</li> <li>2. NPAs for all types of need should be included;</li> <li>3. Funding currently allocated to pupils in reception as an outcome of Transition in Schools Support Meetings (TISSM) should be included;</li> <li>4. That the new funding model would incorporate a further 5 hours of NPA increasing the level of delegation to the equivalent of 10 hours NPA;</li> <li>5. The notional SEN element in the AWPU should be made explicit as part of the SEN funding received by each school;</li> <li>6. Funding should be allocated on the basis of prior attainment averaged over the previous 3 years and latest social deprivation information;</li> <li>7. That the weighting should be 75% on prior attainment and 25% deprivation;</li> <li>8. An AWPU element should be included in the formula;</li> <li>9. A flat rate element should be included;</li> <li>10. A mechanism for protecting schools with a high percentage of statements should be included. Using September 2010 data this would affect 5 schools;</li> <li>11. Transitional protection of 50% should be applied to schools experiencing a reduction of SEN funding of more than 1% of the total schools budget. Using September data this would apply to 4 schools in the proposed model</li> </ol> <p>Total funding delegated is proposed to be £2,750,592 which includes the funding currently delegated (ie., the first 5 hours), the funding above 5 hours of NPA up to the 10 hours level for all statements, NPAs up to 10 hours currently allocated for hearing, visual, physical, speech &amp; language and behaviour needs, and an additional £700k from centrally retained SEN budgets including TISSM funding and the Independent Special Schools budget. The group recognised that this will need to be considered in the context of the overall schools budget</p>	

	<p>settlement.</p> <p>A further proposal to be considered is the need to add NPAs from the PASISS Teams to the funding delegated to secondary schools in order to achieve a consistent approach.</p> <p>Any implications for the application of the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) from the implementation of these formula changes will need to be considered once the detail of the MFG rules is known for 2011/12.</p> <p>It was agreed that this was a move in the right direction and that the proposals in the report should be recommended to Schools Forum.</p>	
5	<p><b>School Funding Consultation 2011-12: Introducing a Pupil Premium</b></p> <p>PC updated the group on the consultation document issued by the Department for Education (DfE) on school funding for 2011/12. The document focuses particularly on the proposed introduction of a Pupil Premium from September 2011.</p> <p>The pupil premium is to be based on social deprivation and will cover pupils from reception to year 11. The consultation document includes proposals to include a premium for Looked After Children and also for children from service families.</p> <p>There is a proposal in the document that the pupil premium should move towards a single national rate rather than reflect differential funding levels for different authorities. It was agreed that Wiltshire should support this proposal.</p> <p>The group considered the measures of deprivation given as options for the basis of allocating the pupil premium. The options being considered are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Free School Meal eligibility</li> <li>• Free School Meals Ever – 3 years. This would incorporate all pupils who had been eligible for FSM in the last 3 years</li> <li>• Free School Meals Ever – 6 years</li> <li>• Tax Credit Indicators</li> <li>• Mosaic or Acorn data – based on post codes</li> </ul> <p>The group were supportive of using the Mosaic data because this is the data already used by Wiltshire schools for funding allocation and also for other purposes.</p> <p>It was recognised that the document is signposting respondents towards FSM. It was felt that the base data for the FSM Ever indicators could be difficult to establish and the question as to who would need to do this was raised.</p>	
10	<p><b>Date &amp; Time of Next Meeting</b></p> <p>Next meeting scheduled for 19<sup>th</sup> November 9.30am at County Hall</p>	