

AGENDA

Herefordshire Schools Forum

Date: **Monday 1 February 2010**

Time: **9.30 am**

Place: **The Council Chamber, Brockington, 35 Hafod Road,
Hereford**

Notes: Please note the **time, date** and **venue** of the meeting.

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Agenda for the Meeting of the Herefordshire Schools Forum

Membership

Chairman Mrs JS Powell
Vice-Chairman Mr NPJ Griffiths

Mr A Leach	Anglican Diocese
Mr P Burbidge	Roman Catholic Church
Mr M Harisson	Teacher Staff Representative
Mrs A Pritchard	Teacher Staff Representative
Mrs J Cecil	Secondary Schools
Mrs S Woodrow	Secondary Schools
Mr N O'Neil	Secondary Schools
Mrs S Catlow-Hawkins	Secondary Schools
Mr J Docherty	Secondary Schools
Mr S Pugh	Secondary Schools
Mr P Box	Primary Schools
Ms T Kneale	Primary Schools
Rev D Hyett	Primary Schools
Mr T Edwards	Primary Schools
Mrs S Bailey	Special Schools
Mrs E Christopher	Pupil Referral Unit
Mr J Godfrey	14-19 Representative
Mr A Shaw	14-19 Representative
Mrs A Jackson	Early Years
Mrs R Lloyd	Early Years

Non Voting	Councillor JA Hyde	Observer
	Councillor PD Price	Observer
	Councillor WLS Bowen	Observer

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AGENDA

	Pages
1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE To receive apologies for absence.	
2. NAMED SUBSTITUTES (IF ANY) To receive any details of Members nominated to attend the meeting in place of a Member of the Forum.	
3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST To receive any declarations of interest by Members in respect of items on the Agenda.	
4. MINUTES To approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 7 December 2009.	5 - 14
5. LATE ITEMS/ANY OTHER BUSINESS To consider any issues raised as either a late item or any other business.	
6. REVIEW OF THE SCHOOLS FORUM To receive an information presentation prepared by the Vice-Chairman and the Head of Improvement and Inclusion on the operation of the Schools Forum.	
7. EXTENDED SCHOOLS SERVICES To update Schools Forum on Extended Schools Services progress.	15 - 24
8. SINGLE FUNDING FORMULA - EARLY YEARS FUNDING REFORM To endorse the single funding formula for early years as required by the statutory early years funding reform for the fee entitlement to early education, to be implemented for April 2010 (pilot status).	25 - 32
9. WORK PROGRAMME 2010/11 To consider the Schools Forum work Programme 2010/11.	33 - 34

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HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

BROCKINGTON, 35 HAFOD ROAD, HEREFORD.

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HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of Herefordshire Schools Forum held at The Council Chamber, Brockington, 35 Hafod Road, Hereford on Monday 7 December 2009 at 2.00 pm

Present: Mr NPJ Griffiths (Vice Chairman)

Mrs S Bailey, Mr P Box, Mrs J Cecil, Mrs E Christopher, Mr J Godfrey, Mr M Harrison, Rev. D Hyett, Mr T Knapp, Ms T Kneale, Mrs R Lloyd, Mrs A Pritchard, Mr S Pugh, Mr A Shaw and Ms S Woodrow.

In attendance: Councillors WLS Bowen and PD Price.

36. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs S Catlow-Hawkins, Mr J Docherty, Mrs A Jackson and Mrs JS Powell.

37. NAMED SUBSTITUTES (IF ANY)

There were no named substitutes.

38. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

39. LATE ITEMS/ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Vice Chairman suggested to Members that item nos. 8 to 15 on the agenda (Minute Nos.44 to 51) should be discussed with decisions on those items being made after discussion on whether to fund each item from the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) underspend in 2008/09 (Minute No.52 refers).

RESOLVED: That

- (i) item Nos. 8, 9,10,11,12,13,14 and 15 on the agenda (Minute Nos. 44 to 51 refer) be discussed with a final decision being made on the funding of those items being made after discussion on the distribution of the DSG Underspend (Minute No.52 refers); and
- (ii) after discussion on the items referred to in (i) above, a separate additional item (Minute No.52 refers) be discussed regarding the Dedicated Schools Grant Underspend.

40. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That subject to the addition of Mr P Box to those present at the meeting, the Minutes of the meeting held on the 12 October 2009 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Vice Chairman.

41. PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE SCHOOLS FORUM CONSTITUTION

The Assistant Director Planning Performance and Development presented a report on proposals to amend the Schools Forum constitution, particularly representation of primary schools and business managers. The Assistant Director Planning, Performance and Development reminded Forum that as required by Department of Children Schools and Families guidance, representation should reflect the school community of Herefordshire. Different groups voting to elect representatives must bear this in mind when deciding representation and should conform to the constitution.

A Member suggested that should the Forum agree to an additional place being provided for primary schools as referred to in recommendation (b) in the report, the proposal that one headteacher should represent two schools as referred to in recommendation (d) would not be necessary.

Forum discussed the proposal relating to the representation of Business Managers. A member of schools forum suggested that the group of Business Managers should elect their own representative.

RESOLVED: That the Schools Forum constitution be amended as follows:

- (i) the number used to determine a small school in terms of membership for Schools Forum be changed from 60 to 105**
- (ii) that an additional membership place be provided for small primary schools; and**
- (iii) a Schools Business Manager, representing all Schools Business Managers, be added to the required membership of the Schools Forum and that the Business Managers Group be requested to nominate the representative from their members.**

42. SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS - UPDATE

The Assistant Director Planning Performance and Development presented a report on the progress in developing Herefordshire's use of service level agreements (SLA) and buy back between schools and Council's services. He emphasised that the SLA booklet was the first stage in rejuvenating SLAs in Herefordshire and was designed to give schools an understanding of services they would be buying. He added that schools would be asked in spring of 2010 which services schools wish to buy back in 2010/11.

In answer to a Member's question, the Assistant Director Planning Performance and Development advised that he was currently discussing the issue regarding notice periods for different services. He was also aware that future developments could involve price advantages for combining choices of services. The Assistant Director, Planning, Performance and Development asked that two or three Headteachers volunteer to work with him to look at when schools should express choices of services during the financial year.

RESOLVED : That

- (i) the progress and comments to date as set out in the report with regard to service level agreements be noted, and**

- (ii) **Headteachers volunteer to work with the Assistant Director, Planning, Performance and Development on Herefordshire SLAs and the timetable for expressing choices.**

43. DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT UNDERSPEND (DSG)

The Finance Manager informed Members that the total DSG underspend amounted to £1,280,408. He advised that this comprised as follows:

	£
DSG underspend on central services	904,690
DSG underspend on the Individual Schools Budget	438,181
Less Rates Rebates for 2008/09	<u>-185,668</u>
	1,157,203
Plus Recovery of School Music Service Deficit	<u>123,205</u>
Total DSG Underspend	1,280,408

The main reasons for the underspend on the central DSG were as follows

Banded funding underspend	£332k
Early years (mainly due to Surestart Grant)	£330k
Savings on Joint Agency Management	£268k

The Director of Children’s Services informed the Forum that there was a need to ensure that the underspend was put to use strategically and effectively. She advised that the underspend could be distributed to schools using the current formulae, the Budget Working Group could consider how some or all of the underspend could be utilised, or the Forum could consider using the underspend for each the funding bids as set out on the agenda, Minute Nos. 44 to 51 refers. She emphasised that any use of the underspend was on a one-off basis.

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

The following Minute Nos. 44 to 51 were discussed by the Forum with no decision being made on the items referred to in those Minutes until the item referred to in Minute No. 52 had been considered and a decision made on that item.

44. PURCHASE OF EDUCATIONAL DIGITAL CONTENT FOR ALL SCHOOLS TO "PRIME" THE VIRTUAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

The ICT Advisor presented a report which requested a one-off funding allocation of £354,932 for the purchase of digital content to “prime” the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) and to secure best value through county wide purchase for all schools (2 year license). He emphasised that by making a bulk purchase of VLE on a county wide basis, such a purchase would bring considerable savings rather than by schools purchasing individually. He informed the Forum that VLE can integrate with many providers.

The Forum discussed the numbers of schools currently signed up to VLE and the retention of Harnessing Technology Grant.

RESOLVED: That the funding request to utilise Dedicated Schools Grant underspend to purchase on line digital content be not approved.

45. PROPOSED USE OF DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT UNDERSPEND - BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE

The Assistant Director of Planning, Performance and Development presented a report to which requested the use of Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) under spend to enable Herefordshire to make best use of any Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme initiatives and money, to improve educational provision for children and young people in Herefordshire. He emphasised that the amount of work required to prepare the authority to take BSF forward should the Department of Children Schools and Families (DCSF) make an approach was set out in paragraph 3 of the report. Also that paragraph 11 indicated the areas of work needed and that costs were significant. He drew Members' attention to the fact that if the necessary work was not carried out prior to an approach being made by DCSF, this would present a problem in trying to do the work quickly.

The Director of Children's Services informed the Forum that in order to get approval from DCSF to proceed with the BSF programme, funds would be required to carry out the necessary work and that to date, such funds had not been identified.

A number of Members recognised the need to carry out the work, but also the uncertainty regarding the BSF programme nationally. The sums required were significant compared to the uncertainty surrounding the programme.

RESOLVED: That the funding request to utilise Dedicated Schools Grant underspend to support the Herefordshire Schools development of school provision through the Building Schools for the Future programme be not approved.

46. PROPOSED USE OF DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT UNDERSPEND - HEREFORDSHIRE SCHOOLS TASK GROUP (HSTG)

The Assistant Director of Planning, Performance and Development presented a report which requested the use of Dedicated Schools Grant underspend to enable Herefordshire to support outcomes from the work of the HSTG and to ensure effective and supported communication and consultation events to implement recommendations.

RESOLVED: That the funding request to commit £50,000 Dedicated Schools Grant underspend to support Herefordshire's implementation of the HSTG recommendations for the financial year 2010/11 be not approved.

47. IN-YEAR FAIR ACCESS SUPPORT

The Assistant Director of Improvement and Inclusion presented a report which requested a one-off funding allocation for the support of children and young people who are placed in secondary schools in emergency situations within the In-Year Fair Access Protocol.

RESOLVED: That the funding request of £20,000 from Dedicated Schools Grant underspend to enable targeted support to be made available to schools to better meet the needs of vulnerable students when transferring to new high schools as part of the In-Year Fair Access Protocol be not approved.

48. ESTABLISHING NURTURE GROUPS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND DEVELOPING AN APPROPRIATE SUPPORT NETWORK

The Secondary Improvement Manager presented a report which requested

- To fund the implementation of five trial Nurture Groups to be established in five Herefordshire Primary Schools.
- To support the implementation of these five Nurture Groups and to facilitate development, networking and ongoing support for the five groups as well as the recently-established trial group.
- To monitor and assess the applicability of Nurture Groups as a means of meeting Additional Educational Needs in Herefordshire.

The Vice Chairman suggested that the nurture groups could be achieved through schools individually. The Principal Education Psychologist advised that setting up a Nurture Group on an individual school basis had proved difficult, the recent trial at Trinity primary school being the example. He added that by establishing five groups would provide a more effective Nurture Group facility.

RESOLVED: That the request approve the funding request of £100,000 from Dedicated Schools Grant underspend to facilitate the implementation of Nurture Groups for 2010-11 only be not approved.

49. DEVELOPING EARLY INTERVENTION FOR CHILDREN AT KS2 IN HEREFORDSHIRE

The Leader of the School Based Intervention Project presented a report with a view to enabling Herefordshire Local Authority Improvement and Inclusion Service (to emulate the School Based Intervention project currently in Herefordshire High schools) at KS2, to establish School based Intervention in all of the primary schools which have at their heart the development of sound and lasting relationships.

RESOLVED: That the request for £325,000 from Dedicated Schools Grant underspend to facilitate the development of Intervention strategies with children at KS2 be not approved.

50. MUSIC SERVICE FUNDING

The Head of Herefordshire Music service presented a report which requested a one-off payment from Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) to help with the current deficit budget of Herefordshire Music Service.

In answer to questions regarding the cost of the music service to schools, the Head of Herefordshire Music Service reminded the Forum that as a result of concerns raised by schools, the Forum had rescinded a previous decision to increase the hourly rate charged to schools which would have avoided a deficit for the financial year 2009/10.

The Head of Herefordshire Music Service advised members that the service was currently analysing the cost of providing instrumental lessons to schools with a view to determining their financial viability.

RESOLVED: That request for a one-off funding of £100,000 from the DSG underspend to help with a budget deficit be not approved.

51. DEVELOPING READING RECOVERY IN HEREFORDSHIRE

The General Inspector Primary Strategy presented a report which requested a one-off funding allocation to enable Herefordshire Children's Services to set up and run a Reading Recovery Training Centre, to be based at Ledbury Primary School, in order for nominated teachers to be trained to deliver this intervention to the lowest attaining 5% Y1 pupils in Herefordshire.

A member referred to data received from the Primary Care Trust which suggested that there was a need for investment in the speech and language therapist area rather than reading recovery. The General Inspector Primary Strategy advised that the Department for Children Schools and Families was fully committed to the Reading Recovery campaign and it was, therefore, for the forum to decide whether to subscribe to it.

RESOLVED: That the request for £50,000 from Dedicated Schools Grant underspend 2008/09 as one off funding to contribute to the setting up of Reading Recovery Training Centre to enable the delivery of Reading Recovery from September 2010 be not approved.

At this point, the meeting adjourned for 15 minutes.

52. DEDICATED SCHOOL GRANT UNDERSPEND (DSG)

The Vice Chairman suggested that the Forum should consider whether the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) underspend should be distributed to all schools on a per pupil basis or that each of the items referred to in the previous Minutes should be considered individually for funding from the DSG underspend.

A Member asked if all the funding requests from DSG underspend could be considered as a whole rather than individually. The Director of Children's Services advised that there was insufficient monies in the DSG underspend to fund the requests as a whole.

The Director of Children's Services advised that all the items before the Forum were valuable work but emphasised that there were also pressures facing schools. Notwithstanding the decision the Forum would be making on the current DSG underspend, with the economic climate and future pressures, she asked the Forum to consider a way forward of how future surplus funds could be dealt with.

Members noted that each item requesting funding from the underspend could be considered individually but that should the Forum decide to allocate the underspend to schools for them to decide how it should be spent, such a decision would effectively mean that the funding requests from the DSG underspend would not be approved.

After further discussion it was suggested that the DSG underspend be allocated to all schools on a per pupil basis with each school to decide on whether to take the money in a lump sum or divided equally over 3 years.

RESOLVED: That the £1,280,408 DSG underspend in 2008/09 be allocated to all schools on a per pupil basis with each school to decide on the allocation being either

- (i) Divided equally over 3 years, 2009/10, 2010/11, 2011/12; or**
- (ii) In a lump sum in 2009/10.**

As a consequence of the above decision, the requests for funding from the DSG underspend, Minute Nos. 44 to 51 refers, were not approved by the Forum and the aforementioned Minutes record this decision accordingly.

53. REPORT OF THE BUDGET WORKING GROUP - 25 SEPTEMBER AND 13 NOVEMBER 2009

The Finance Manager presented the reports of the Budget Working Group meetings held on 25 September and 13 November 2009.

In taking the Forum through the report, the Finance Manager drew Members' attention to the increased costs in SEN banded Funding which had resulted in the budget being overspent. He emphasised that an analysis of the costs was being undertaken to determine the causes.

A Member referred to instances where some schools were not making the most efficient use of revenue and were transferring revenue to capital.

A Member made reference to the redistribution of Dedicated Schools Grant underspend which would provide more money to schools when some schools were not making effective use of revenue as revenue.

That Finance Manager informed the Forum that the Budget Working Group would be looking at the subject of the transference of revenue into capital.

RESOLVED: That the Forum

- (i) Agrees the continuation of the existing budget strategy**
 - a. Minimum Funding Guarantee of 2.1%;**
 - b. Headroom distribution of 50% on pupil numbers and 50% social deprivation;**
 - c. Small Schools Protection remains frozen at 06/07 level;**
- (ii) Approves reductions to the following Central budgets for 2010/11**
 - a. Academies – Individually Assigned Resources £106k;**
 - b. Contingencies £80k;**
 - c. Hereford LEA Swimming Pool £89.5k;**
 - d. Travellers' Children £14k;**

- (iii) Approves budget increases for 2010/11
 - a. Service Level Agreements - £70k to provide for a Governor Services SLA;
 - b. SEN Banded Funding provisionally £260k for Bands 3 & 4;
 - c. Pupil Referral Units provisionally £100k;
- (iv) Approves the continued cash freeze of the PVI nursery budget until parity with Worcestershire, Shropshire and Gloucestershire is achieved;
- (v) Approves the application of a budget abatement for schools with nursery classes in response to revised early years funding formula; and
- (vi) Approves the issue of draft school budgets before the end of term on the basis of the budget assumptions agreed by Forum

54. FUNDING FOR INCLUSION GROUP - REVISED MODEL FOR DELEGATED BANDS 1 AND 2 FUNDING 2010/11

The Finance Manager presented a report which requested the Forum to consider changes to the allocation method of delegated Bands 1 and 2 funding for 2010/11.

RESOLVED: That the Forum approves changes to the Banded Funding delegation model as follows:

2010/11

- (i) The adoption of the “basket of deprivation indicators” to replace the Free School Meals factor;
- (ii) Formula Option B – 75% on the new funding model and 25 % on the adjusted/uplifted 2007/08 actual banded funding;
- (ii) Protection is 50% of the losses between option B and the uplifted/adjusted 07/08 banded funding actuals for primaries only;

2011/12

- (iv) Option C – 100% on the new funding model and 25% protection for primaries;

2012/13

- (v) 100% of the new funding model with no protection.

55. SCHOOLS FORUM WORK PROGRAMME 2009/10

The Forum considered the Forum Work Programme.

The Forum noted that due to the Christmas period providing a very short timescale for the production of reports for the meeting scheduled for 12 January, the Chairman had, therefore, agreed to cancel that meeting.

RESOLVED: That the items scheduled for consideration at the 12 January 2010 Forum meeting be transferred for consideration at 1 February 2010 meeting and that the following items be added to the Work Programme:

- (i) **Harnessing Grant Technology –**
To consider the need for the authority to retain 25 per cent. –
23 February 2010 meeting.
- (ii) **Schools Forum –**
An information report on what the Forum is set up to do and
how it should operate – 1 February 2010 meeting

The meeting ended at 4.45 pm

CHAIRMAN

MEETING:	SCHOOLS FORUM
DATE:	1 FEBRUARY 2010
TITLE OF REPORT:	EXTENDED SCHOOLS SERVICES
CHILDREN'S CENTRE AND EXTENDED SCHOOL COORDINATOR	LEA ABBOTTS

Schools Affected

All schools.

Purpose

- To update Schools Forum on Extended Schools Services progress.
- To report to Schools Forum the use of designated Extended Services funding streams for the development of Extended Services in and around schools for the financial year 2009/10.
- To update Schools Forum on the indicative funding allocated to the Local Authority for 2010/2011.

Key Decision

This is not a key decision.

Recommendation(s)

THAT Schools Forum note the update on Extended Schools progress and designated development funding for financial year 2009/10, together with the indicative funding allocated to the Local Authority of Herefordshire for the subsequent financial year 2010/2011.

Key Points Summary

- 87% of Herefordshire's schools currently offer access to the core offer of Extended Services.

Further information on the subject of this report is available from
Lea Abbots – Children's Centre and Extended School Co-ordinator (01432) 261681

- Herefordshire is on target to achieve the national target of 100% of schools offering access to the full core offer by September 2010.
- Disadvantage Subsidy money has now been distributed to the participating pilot clusters.

Alternative Options

- 1 Delivery of extended schools and services is a requirement from central government. There are no alternative options.

Reasons for Recommendations

- 2 There are none.

Introduction and Background

- 3 The primary objective of extended services is to reduce the achievement gap and to raise attainment and achievement in schools by supporting the development and delivery of local services in and around schools, accessible to every child and family and to ensure a local delivery of the Every Child Matters agenda.
- 4 The government expects all schools to be delivering access to a core offer of services by September 2010.

The core offer

- A varied menu of activities. This can range from catch up and study support provision to sport, art and other clubs
- Childcare. In primary schools this includes access to childcare from 8-6, 5 days a week, 48 weeks a year subject to need. In secondary schools this includes a safe place to be from 08:00 to 18:00 during term time and more flexibility in the holidays.
- Parenting support. This includes information and signposting to services, parenting groups and courses, family learning opportunities and support during transition.
- Swift and easy access to targeted and specialist services. This includes the school engagement with CAF and locality based multi- agency working as well as access to appropriate services e.g. CAMHS, plus school level support such as access to Parent Support Advisors.
- Community access to facilities. This reflects the use of the school facilities including the delivery of adult learning and partner agencies services – Children’s centres, health services and community recreational activities.

“Access” does not mean “provided by” and schools are not expected to offer the full range of services on their own sites.

- 5 The benefits of extended services for children and young people, school staff and parents include improvements in behaviour, attendance, motivation and achievement. This may result from integrated health and social care, the enhancement to the learning culture, increased parental involvement and/or wider activities to engage pupils in school and learning. The benefits for the wider community include better access to services, closer relationships with the school, and constructive opportunities for young people outside school hours, local career development opportunities, playing a part in neighbourhood renewal and

providing a community focus. There has been significant national investment in several areas of development to support the Extended Services core offer, including the Parent Support Advisors (parenting support) and the Disadvantage Subsidy (varied menu of activities).

- 6 On 15th December 2008 Schools Forum approved an Extended services report to continue the delegation of £762,398 to school clusters on receipt of a costed business plan. All clusters supplied a cluster plan.
- 7 The Governments expectation is that over time extended services will become sustainable either through charging, for childcare for example, or through reconfiguring funding strands at local level through children's trusts or by pooling budgets to support extended services in schools. It is expected that funding will taper off from 2011 to reflect the commitment of every school to be an extended school by 2010.

Key Considerations

- 8 Progress against all the Extended Schools targets is reported nationally through the Training and Development Agency. This includes the Parent Support Advisors and the Disadvantage Subsidy.
- 9 Progress against the target is reported locally through the Enjoy and Achieve Outcome Group and through line management to the Children and Young Peoples Directorate's Leadership Team.
- 10 At the time of writing 87% of schools in Herefordshire are currently on full core offer. The county is on target to achieve the national target of all schools offering access to a basic level of provision across the full core offer by September 2010.

Community Impact

- 11 The move to locality teams will assist with the delivery of full core offer services.
- 12 As part of the core offer schools are required to consult their communities and respond to identified need.

Financial Implications

- 13 The tables below show an overview of both income and expenditure between 2008 –2011:

Income

	2008/09	2009/10	2010/2011 Indicative allocations
Standards Fund- Sustainability	282,266	491,629	722,747
Area Based Grant – Start Up	422,595	687,845	314,109
Dedicated Schools Grant	147,946	158,033	137,000

(DSG)			
Total	853,807	1,358,857	1,198,905

- 14 Area Based Grant funding is not ring fenced and is therefore an indicative amount at this stage. It is Start Up funding and is intended to support new initiatives. It is not possible at this stage to confirm funding amounts for 2010/11, as decisions against funding will not be made until Feb 2010. However the indicative allocation is considerably reduced.
- 15 There is a corresponding increase in the Standards Fund element of the Extended Schools Grant for sustainability.

16 There is a considerable increase in the amount of funding available through the Extended Services Economic Disadvantage Subsidy.

	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Standards Fund Disadvantage Subsidy	N/A	90,842	492,207

Expenditure – this outlines the 2009/10 expenditure against the three main revenue grants.

	Standards Fund £	ABG £	Disadvantage Subsidy £	DSG £	Total £	Use
Devolved to school clusters	294,503	326,724	45,000	158,033	826,387	
Steiner Academy (delay in allocation)	2127		(15,000 still to be devolved to one cluster)			
Disadvantage subsidy Virtual cluster (countywide identified groups of children)			45,842		45,842	Social care Pupil Referral unit Brookfield schools

Further information on the subject of this report is available from
Lea Abbotts – Children’s Centre and Extended School Co-ordinator (01432) 261681

Countywide projects - Speech and language (additional support to meet need in schools)		40,000			165,000	56 children removed from waiting lists. 1 years waiting time reduced to 6 months in the City. 1 temporary F/T therapist and 1P/T assistant employed by PCT with the funding
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Transport	10,000					To support access in rural communities.
Young carers	25,000					Support for the target group
Parents voice	25,000					Group support for parent carers
Community newspapers	30,000					Roll out of successful community newspaper across 3 clusters, Kingstone, St. Mary's and The Academy
Kids first - (After school club for children with disabilities)		20,000				After school and summer club (will not continue as Kids First have withdrawn from the county)
Continuation of out of school activities for children with disabilities	40,000					Allocated to work with Aiming High to continue Kids First work
Consultation with children		10,000				Work undertaken by HCYVS around play and after school activities
Summer theatre		5,000				63 8-12 year olds week long scheme
Training		7,000			7000	Ongoing Governor training, ESCO training
Family	12,000				12,000	From April 2010 support for families separating or reforming – picking up an

Mediation						existing service that has lost funding. To be reviewed
Contribution to salaries	28,000	142,925			170,925	Half of the Children's Centre and Extended Schools Co-ordinator post; the Extended Schools Support Officer post; a Development Co-ordinator post; a contribution to a Child and Families Information post; and a contribution to a Monitoring post. All of the above work directly to support the Extended services agenda and the financial contribution reflects a percentage of work time given to the agenda.
Parent Support Advisers	100,000 originally allocated not needed this year	100,000			100,000	
Total	466630	651,649	90,842	158,033	1,327,154	

- 18 £25,000 of Standards Fund currently remains uncommitted and needs to be committed and spent by August 2010.
- 19 £36,196 of Area Based Grant Fund is currently unspent (originally allocated against staff and new projects. Returned to the Enjoy and Achieve Outcome group to be reallocated.
- 20 'No Wrong Door' is a project, led by the Children's Trust, to deliver multi agency locality life chances by taking the best practice forward, and leave the rest behind. The services for children, young people and families in Herefordshire, that will improve their future Implementation Plan proposes that there will be three locality team areas, serving a defined population of children, with an allocation of resources to meet a specified range of functions. Initially the locality teams will be focused on front line delivery of early intervention and assessment services to children and families. There will be a need to re-organise some Council children's services around this new structure and it is envisaged that responsibility for leading and managing Extended Services within the Local Authority will sit within the Locality Teams under the Assistant Director for Community Operations.

Legal Implications

- 20 These proposals (information) comply with the councils legal duties.

Risk Management

- 21 13% of schools are currently not delivering the core offer which may lead to failure to meet the national indicator 88 (All schools delivering access to the full core offer). In addition the extended services agenda assists with the delivery of a number of health and achievement national indicators including, NI 50 emotional health of children, NI 55 obesity in children, NI 102 narrowing the achievement gap between those eligible for free school meals and their peers. The Training and Development Agency and Officers have identified the schools and are planning a support programme for these schools and their community to be delivered between February and June 2010.
- 22 21st Century Schools embed the extended services agenda into the school curriculum and changes to the Ofsted criteria reinforce the extended services agenda. The shift in the funding streams from Start Up in Area Based Grant and Sure Start, Early Years and Childcare to Standards Fund reflects this. Over this coming financial year 2010-2011 schools will need to give consideration to using funding appropriately to ensure sustainability of the Extended Services agenda. Support from Early Years and extended Services and the Training and Development Agency will be available over the year to plan for sustainability from 2011 onwards.

Consultees

- 23 Consultation within Children and Young Peoples Directorate.

Further information on the subject of this report is available from
Lea Abbotts – Children's Centre and Extended School Co-ordinator (01432) 261681

Appendices

24 None.

Background Papers

25

Schools Forum Report December 2008

- **DLT Disadvantage Subsidy Report September 2009**

MEETING:	SCHOOLS FORUM
DATE:	1 FEBRUARY 2010
TITLE OF REPORT:	SINGLE FUNDING FORMULA – EARLY YEARS FUNDING REFORM
MANAGER EARLY YEARS AND EXTENDED SERVICES	ROS HATHERILL

Schools Affected

All schools with maintained nurseries, together with all private, voluntary and independent early years settings, which includes childminders.

Purpose

To endorse the single funding formula for early years as required by the statutory early years funding reform for the fee entitlement to early education, to be implemented for April 2010 (pilot status).

Key Decision

This is not a Key Decision.

Recommendation(s)

THAT Schools Forum endorse the presented single funding formula for Herefordshire and the Local Authority (LA) progresses with pilot status from April 2010.

Key Points Summary

- The Local Authority has undertaken extensive consultation exercises over a two year period working through termly meetings of a funding sub group of the Early Years and Extended Services Forum.
- The Local Authority has been supported in developing its single funding formula by Government Office West Midlands and a series of West Midland Local Authority workshops. These workshops have drawn on evidence and experience of pilot authorities.
- A new monthly payments system will be introduced to support the Single Funding Formula.

Further information on the subject of this report is available from
Ros Hatherill – Manager Early Years and Extended Services

- The Government has recently announced Dec 11th 2009 its intention to delay introduction of Single Funding Formula until April 2011 due to a large number of Local Authorities not being ready. Local Authorities that are ready to go with Single Funding Formula can apply for pilot status to operate from April 2010. It is Herefordshire's intention to apply for pilot status.

Alternative Options

- 1 There are none.

Reasons for Recommendations

- 2 There are none.

Introduction and Background

- 3 The Government announces June 2007 that local authorities will be required to use a single funding formula for funding early years provision in the maintained and Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) sectors from 2010/2011.
- 4 The intention being to bring all providers into the same footing for funding, whilst also applying the same set of principles to all provider funding .To also show transparency for differences in funding and to bring value for money into early years funding.
- 5 Following an initial introduction to Single Funding Formula (an extensive background information together with planned consultation was outlined at a meeting of the schools forum on Monday 13th October 2008) Schools Forum asked that the proposed single funding formula come back to Schools Forum prior to going live with delivery on April 1st 2010.
- 6 A series of termly meetings have been convened where results of consultation activities and Department for Children Schools and Families (DCSF) guidance have been fed back to a wide range of participating settings crossing the full range of LA nurseries, private, voluntary and independent early years settings which also included childminders.
- 7 The most recent updated LA guidance, October 2009, lays out that the formula will follow a set of given principles.

The single funding formula should:

Year 1 Offer a base rate to each setting.

Show deprivation funding as following the individual child.

Year 2 Introduce a quality supplement together with flexibility.

Introduce deprivation funding per setting as well as following the individual child

- 8 Several formulas have been run and feedback has been asked for. The response rate has been poor overall, however some key factors have been raised, looked at and the formula adjusted to represent.
- 9 Herefordshire will move towards a planned monthly payment process to be introduced January 2010 for the PVI sectors and then introduced to the LA nurseries as the Single Funding Formula runs April 1st 2010. Monthly payment will be adjusted, where appropriate 3 times per

year.

- 10 Estimation of numbers (children participating) for the initial budget for each setting will be based upon either last years numbers and adjustments to these where significant changes in numbers is evidenced.
- 11 The counting mechanisms for children per term are based upon at least three counts and are the same for everyone. That adjustment mechanisms take account of the cash flow needs of providers.
- 12 As part of the budget setting process for 2009/10, Schools Forum on 26th February 2009 recommended to, and it was subsequently agreed by, the Cabinet Member for Children's Services that the payment rate for PVI nursery settings should be frozen to achieve parity with the average of Worcestershire, Shropshire and Gloucestershire. Schools Forum considered that PVI business operating costs would not be different in Herefordshire to those of our neighbouring counties. In light of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) budget reductions due to falling rolls it was considered reasonable to freeze the payment rate for an estimated four years rather than reducing the payment rate but over a shorter timescale. The freeze in payment has been considered in the development of the statutory requirement to have a Single Funding Formula across all settings including the LA nurseries.
- 13 The proposed single funding formula for Herefordshire has fully considered the neighbouring local authorities formula's and is comparably in line.

Key Considerations

- 14 The single funding formula presented runs for year one but is monitored and evaluated for the commencement of year 2 April 2011.
- 15 All settings receive an indicative amount based of the numbers given last year in attendance and sessions claimed for, December 2009. Following the endorsement from School Forum and the sign off of Cabinet Member, settings receive a confirmed amount. Monthly payments processes are set up and are active from April 1st 2010 for all settings.
- 16 Schools Forum may wish to consider a process of Abatement, for LA nursery classes attached to schools, along similar lines of the Learning Skills Council Funding to schools. *(Ref appendix 1 – report Nursery Education Funding –Proposed Abatement, November 2009)*

Community Impact

- 17 No community impact to report on.

Financial Implications

18 Basic Formula Structure – Phased Approach for Herefordshire

	Basic hourly rate per child	Fixed rate per setting per week	Supplement for quality per setting per week	Supplement for flexibility will be discussed from Sept 2010	Amount per setting in a disadvantaged area per week	Amount per hour per disadvantaged child from year 1	% areas of deprivation (note :the lowest % band is most deprived)

Year 1	£3.41	£27.00	0		0	7p	
Year 2	£3.23	£54.00	£5.00		£15.00	14p	
Year 3	£2.97	£86.00	£10.00		£40.00	24p	0-25% band
						12p	25-50% band
						4p	50-60%

Based on the formula given above and the numbers of settings delivering the funded places, the total amount of money required is shown in the table below. Estimates are provided for 2010/11 since actual funding can only be determined by pupil numbers in 2010/11.

Year	Funding	Total	Total Funded
2009/2010	Dedicated Schools Grant:		
	3 year olds	£2,115,551	
	4 year olds	£ 768,032	
	LA nursery classes	£ 691,000	
	TOTAL DSG	£3,574,583	£,3,574,583
	General Sure Start Grant:		
	2 year olds	£ 133,050	£133,050
	Standards Fund:		
	3 and 4 year old extended entitlement – additional 2.5 hrs	£ 370,374	£370,374
			£ 4,078,007.00
2010/2011 FORMULA RUN	Dedicated Schools Grant:		
	3 and 4 year olds / 118 settings inc LA nursery classes (based on head count JAN 2009)	£ 3,603,849.70	£3,603,849.70
	Standards Fund		
	Extended Entitlement	*£ 1,164,485.00	£1,164,485.00
	General Sure Start Grant	*£ 167,150.00	£ 167,150.00

	2 year olds		£ 4,935,434.70
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* provisional figs

Legal Implications

- 19 There are no legal implications at this stage. Contracts /agreements are issued to each setting, legally contracting then to deliver Nursery Education Funding. These contracts /agreements will now also be extended to the 13 primary schools with Local Authority nursery classes that are now to run under the Single Funding Formula. (Previously the LA nurseries were funded place led (set by LA) rather than as now under the formula (participation, the number of children attending)).

Risk Management

- 20 The information held within this paper covers the requirements as laid out by the DCSF. However ref para 12 if as an authority the decision is made to freeze payments to the Private, Voluntary, Independent nursery settings, then consideration will need to be highlighted as to how this may effect businesses. The report states that operating costs should be no more in Herefordshire than neighbouring authorities, however if a business has been used to an identified income and now over 4 years a freeze impacts, this could effect staffing levels and possibly the ability to provide quality service. The risk initially will be to individual business but the knock on effect could be a risk for the council.

Consultees

- 21 A series of three formal consultations have taken place since October 2008. All of the settings, together with the LA nurseries have been involved. A Nursery Education / Single Funding finance sub group of the Early Years and Extended Services Forum has met termly, representation has been across a range of the Private, Voluntary, Independent sector and the Local Authority nurseries. The formula has been adjusted in direct response to the consultations and also in line with regular DCSF updates, the last of which was 30 September 2009.

Appendices

- 22 Appendix 1 Nursery Education Funding – Proposed Abatement

Background Papers

- 23 Consultation Paper – Early Years Reform For Free Entitlement of Early Education (September 2008)
Final Consultation Early Years Funding Group (September 2009)

NURSERY EDUCATION FUNDING – PROPOSED ABATEMENT

Schools Affected

All schools

Purpose

To determine whether it is appropriate to apply a similar abatement to schools benefiting from revised nursery funding as that applied to schools in receipt of Learning and Skills Council (LSC) funding.

Report**1. LMS Formula Funding of Premises and Fixed Costs**

The LMS formula funding model fully funds schools' premises costs as well as other management related costs. The sixth form funding received from the Learning Skills Council is allocated on a full cost basis so includes an element for these costs. The revised nursery education funding formula is calculated on a similar basis. This means that in both cases there is potential for the duplication of funding.

2. Process of Abatement for Schools in Receipt of Learning Skills Council Sixth Form Funding

To reflect the fact that schools with sixth forms effectively receive funding twice for premises and other fixed costs we apply a reduction to their budgets. This reduction is applied to Site Specific and School Specific factors of the formula funding model, which include premises, rates, energy, grounds etc. The abatement is based on the number of sixth form pupils as a percentage of the total number of pupils on roll.

3. Application of Abatement to Schools with Nurseries

If we adopt a similar approach for schools with nurseries an overall budget reduction of £65,262 would be applied. This will be partially offset by an increase in payment under the Minimum Funding Guarantee, so the net gain will be £50,886. The table below shows the effect of applying a reduction to the budgets of schools with nurseries.

For Discussion

- Should the same principles apply to schools in receipt of the revised nursery funding as schools in receipt of Learning Skills Council funding?

Impact of Proposed Abatement on Allocations to Schools with Nurseries

SCHOOL NAME	FTE NURSERY	NOR INC NURSERY	NURSERY AS A % OF NOR	09/10 NURSERY PLACE LED FUNDING	ORIGINAL 09/10 BUDGET ALLOCATION	MINIMUM FUNDING GUARANTEE	TOTAL 09/10 BUDGET ALLOCATION (INC MFG)	REVISED NURSERY FUNDING	PROPOSED ABATEMENT	REVISED 09/10 BUDGET ALLOCATION	MINIMUM FUNDING GUARANTEE	PROPOSED REVISED BUDGET
BROMYARD, ST. PETER'S PRIMARY	13	202	6.4%	38,961	621,272	0	621,272	43,831	-5,205	620,483	0	620,483
BROADLANDS PRIMARY	8	255	3.1%	34,450	788,578	13,797	802,375	27,048	-2,691	778,178	22,701	800,879
LORD SCUDAMORE	26	583	4.5%	72,934	1,600,084	0	1,600,084	85,599	-4,833	1,607,784	0	1,607,784
MARLBROOK PRIMARY	22	408	5.4%	77,298	1,285,392	0	1,285,392	73,465	-6,494	1,291,702	0	1,291,702
ST. MARTIN'S PRIMARY	13	351	3.7%	68,900	1,164,673	0	1,164,673	43,312	-4,048	1,135,081	0	1,135,081
KINGSTONE & THRUXTON PRIMARY	7	189	3.4%	11,090	596,230	0	596,230	22,169	-2,700	604,210	0	604,210
KINGTON PRIMARY	9	204	4.2%	34,450	635,719	0	635,719	29,014	-3,179	626,996	0	626,996
LEDBURY PRIMARY	26	471	5.5%	68,900	1,347,480	0	1,347,480	85,599	-6,160	1,357,010	0	1,357,010
LEOMINSTER INFANTS'	26	250	10.4%	76,887	794,592	11,893	806,484	86,636	-9,484	794,413	13,254	807,667
ASHFIELD PARK PRIMARY	13	325	4.0%	68,900	993,038	0	993,038	43,312	-4,358	962,642	2,344	964,986
WEOBLEY PRIMARY	5	156	3.2%	34,450	535,610	0	535,610	17,290	-2,773	515,479	0	515,479
WITHINGTON PRIMARY	10	76	13.2%	34,478	283,128	0	283,128	33,554	-9,156	278,239	1,767	280,006
RIVERSIDE PRIMARY	13	344	3.8%	68,900	1,152,381	0	1,152,381	43,831	-4,181	1,123,842	0	1,123,842
				690,598	11,798,175	25,689	11,823,864	634,662	-65,262	11,696,061	40,065	11,736,126

FTE – Fulltime equivalent
NOR – Numbers on register

Herefordshire Schools Forum – Work Programme 2009/10

1 February 2010 10.30am Brockington	
Officer Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Years Funding Formula (Minute No. 29 - 2009/10) • Extended Schools Spending (Minute No. 29 - 2009/10) • Schools Forum The Vice Chairman to present an information item on what the Forum does and how it operates. • Workplan 2010/2011
23 February 2010 2pm Brockington	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools Finance Scheme • Harnessing Grant Technology (Minute No. 55 - 2009/2010) • Delegation of Banded Funding 2009/10 - Review of the Representation of the Funding for Inclusion Group (Minute No.93 2008/09) • Workplan 2010/2011
17 May 2010 2pm Brockington	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workplan 2010/2011
9 July 2010 10am Brockington	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workplan 2010/2011
1 October 2010 2pm Brockington	

Officer Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Performance Outcomes Against Grant Spends• Workplan 2010/2011