

Summary of decisions taken by the Herefordshire Schools Forum on Friday 12 July 2013

This document summarises the decisions taken by the Committee. The full decision will be published in the minutes of the meeting. The minutes will be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee for approval as a correct record and published to the website once approved.

Item No	Title	Description/Purpose	Decision
5	REPORT OF BUDGET WORKING GROUP	To consider the report of the Budget Working Group on the following matters: changes to the national funding formula, Dedicated Schools Grant Underspend 2012/13, Special Educational Needs Support Services, provision for sponsored academies deficits and the use of school balances.	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That (a) consultation should take place on the basis that the following are the preferred options but with a range of options to be presented in the consultation paper:</p> <p>1 LUMP SUM</p> <p>a) Herefordshire should adopt the lump sum values (proposed by the f40) of £75,000 for primary and £150,000 for secondary schools</p> <p>b) The transition to these new values should be phased in over the same period that sparsity funding is implemented – options for 3 or 5 years were suggested, the Budget Working Group favouring five years.</p> <p>2 SPARSITY</p> <p>A sparsity factor should be applied as follows:</p> <p>Primary Sparsity Model</p> <p>a) That the sparsity subsidy should be set at £51,000 for a</p>

Herefordshire Council – Decisions taken by the Herefordshire Schools Forum on Friday 12 July 2013

Agenda Item No	Topic	Decision
		<p>28 pupil primary school and that funding should decrease on a tapered basis.</p> <p>b) Primary Model A, a sparsity lump sum of £70,000 and the 105 pupil model, should be the preferred sparsity model as this does not reduce expenditure from 2012/13, however, views on the alternative Model C should also be sought.</p> <p>Secondary Sparsity Model</p> <p>That the sparsity lump sum should be set at £70,000 to maintain consistency with the primary sparsity model and the pupil threshold of 450 pupils be adopted.</p> <p>Sparsity Generally</p> <p>That the cost of sparsity payments in high schools should be funded by high schools and those in primary schools should be funded by primary schools.</p> <p>3 PRIMARY/SECONDARY RATIO</p> <p>That consultation be conducted on the basis of a £200,000 per year transfer from primary to secondary schools over a five year period moving the ratio from 1:18 to 1:23 at 1% per year, making provision for reviewing the position annually to permit adjustments to be made if appropriate, and ensuring that the actions of other authorities were monitored and in each</p>

Herefordshire Council – Decisions taken by the Herefordshire Schools Forum on Friday 12 July 2013

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		<p>annual review the family average was considered to see whether that had changed.</p> <p>4 MOBILITY FACTOR</p> <p>That no change be made in relation to a mobility factor for the present and the position reviewed for 2015/16.</p> <p>5 LUMP SUM/SPARSITY/PRIMARY:SECONDARY RATIO PACKAGE</p> <p>That the proposals for the lump sum, the application of a sparsity factor and a phased move towards the average funding ratios were interlinked and were best viewed as a single package.</p> <p>6 PRIOR ATTAINMENT – SEN PROXY PUPILS NOT ACHIEVING KS2 LEVEL 4 IN MATHS/ENGLISH</p> <p>That the funding allocation for secondary prior attainment be amended to £147 per pupil not attaining Maths or English to maintain the current expenditure at the same level as 2013/14 i.e. £347,184.</p> <p>7 MISCELLANEOUS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the DfE should be asked to confirm whether or not it had taken account of schools across the Welsh

Herefordshire Council – Decisions taken by the Herefordshire Schools Forum on Friday 12 July 2013

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		<p>border in calculating the sparsity factor and requested to recalculate the sparsity factor if it had not done so.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the consultation paper should explain the redistribution of resources to more fairly reflect the deprivation factor following the cessation of the excellence cluster funding. • That the consultation document should explicitly state that schools with fewer than 70 pupils could not afford their own head teacher and needed to federate if they were to be viable. <p>b it should be noted that proposals were being made on the basis that funding levels would remain the same, noting that if they were to decrease further work on the various models would be needed;</p> <p>c in reviewing the financial risk assessment framework the Authority and schools should in particular consider what risk indicators it would be beneficial for Headteachers and governors to keep informed of, in order to provide the best means of governors, and where necessary the local authority, taking early preventative action to avoid deficits arising;</p> <p>d the Cabinet Member (Children’s Services) be</p>

Herefordshire Council – Decisions taken by the Herefordshire Schools Forum on Friday 12 July 2013

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			<p>recommended that the Dedicated Schools Grant underspend of £44k for 2012/13 be transferred to the High Needs Block.</p> <p>e the Forum confirmed that it is satisfied that the requirement that Forum papers, minutes and decisions are being published promptly on the Authority's website is being met; and</p> <p>f the Education Funding Agency's comments on improving communication within the groups represented on the Forum be noted.</p>
6	SCHOOLS CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME	To note and endorse the proposed approach to expenditure and accountability of the Locally Coordinated Voluntary Aided Programme (LCVAP), Basic Need Capital and Maintenance budgets.	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That (a) the projected spending outlined in appendices 1, 2, 3 and 4 to the report be supported;</p> <p>(b) the annual "Trend" heat maintenance system costs, previously charged to the Capital Maintenance budget, be charged to individual schools on a full cost recovery basis with allowance in the 2013/14 budget for schools opting out to install their preferred system; and</p> <p>(c) the Local Authority's approach to monitoring and quality-assuring the duties associated with running a building be supported.</p>

Herefordshire Council – Decisions taken by the Herefordshire Schools Forum on Friday 12 July 2013

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7	SCHOOL FUNDING SCHEME CHANGES	<p>To approve the Department for Education (DfE) directed changes to the Herefordshire Scheme for Financing Schools effective from 1 September 2013.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <p>That (a) the Department for Education directed changes to the Herefordshire Scheme for Financing Schools effective from 1 September 2013 be approved; and</p> <p>(b) the detailed appendices to the report be rationalised to ensure they remained relevant and a timescale for updating them and making them available be developed.</p>
8	WORK PROGRAMME	<p>To consider the Forum's work programme.</p> <p>Items for consideration on 25 October 2013:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election of Chairman/Vice-Chairman of Forum • Election of Chairman of Budget Working Group • Report of Budget Working Group (including progress report on High Needs Block Funding). • DSG Underspend 2011-12 • School Budget 2014/15 Consultation Paper - introduction of High Needs Multi Tariffs and proposed National Funding Formula changes 2014/15. • Capital Investment 2013/14 Update

Herefordshire Council – Decisions taken by the Herefordshire Schools Forum on Friday 12 July 2013

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation on the provision of school transport • Review of provisions on Substitution in the Forum's Constitution • W orkplan 2013/14 • Dates of Meetings
9	MEETING DATES	<p>The following meeting dates have been scheduled:</p> <p>Friday 25 October 2013 9.30 am</p> <p>Friday 29 November 2013 9.30 am</p> <p>Friday 17 January 2014 2.00 pm</p> <p>Friday 28 February 2.00 pm</p> <p>Monday 17 March 2014 9.30 am</p> <p>Friday 16 May 2014 9.30 am</p>

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