

AGENDA



SCHOOLS FORUM

Date: Thursday 1st March 2018
Time: 4.30pm
Place: Room 0012, Badminton Road Offices, Yate

Distribution

Members of the Committee

Rhona Allgood	Keith Lawrence (Chair)
Dave Baker	Louise Leader
Penny Chislett	Jim Lott
Mark Dee	Sarah Lovell
Jo Dent	Diane Owen
Mark Freeman	Lisa Parker
Kim Garland	Ann Reed (sub)
Elizabeth Gibbons	Max Reed
John Goff	Peter Smart
Clare Haughton	Susie Weaver
Emma Jarman	Bernice Webber

Appropriate Officers

Peter Murphy
Mustafa Salih
Helean Hughes

Councillors

Toby Savage
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AGENDA

1	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS	5 mins
2	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	5 mins
3	EVACUATION PROCESS	5 mins
4	ANY OTHER ITEMS THE CHAIR DECIDES ARE URGENT	5 mins
5	MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 JANUARY 2018	5 mins
6	SEND STRATEGY	30 mins
7	NEW REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FROM THE SCHOOLS IN FINANCIAL DIFFICULTY CONTINGENCY	15 mins
8	DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS AND THE SCHOOLS FORUM WORK PROGRAMME 2018	5 mins
9	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	5 mins

SCHOOLS FORUM
Thursday 18th January 2018
Interactive Theatre Room, Winterbourne International Academy

PRESENT:

Dave Baker	Executive Headteacher, Olympus Academy Trust
Mark Dee	Executive Headteacher, The Park and Parkwall Primary schools
Kim Garland	Headteacher, Brimsham Green School
Stuart Hill	Governor, Castle School Education Trust
Keith Lawrence (Chair)	Governor, Culverhill, School
Jim Lott	Governor, The Tynings Primary and Raysfield Federation
Sarah Lovell	Finance Director, Cabot Learning Federation
Diane Owen	Chair, Kings Oak Academy
Lisa Parker	Headteacher, Warmley Park School
Ann Reed	Governor, New Horizons Learning Centre and Culverhill
Max Reed	Governor, The Ridge School
Toby Savage	Councillor, Cabinet Member for Schools, Skills & Employment
Susie Weaver	Principal, Wallscourt Farm Academy
Richard Clark	Headteacher, Callicroft Primary attending for Agend Item 6

Officers:

Mustafa Salih – Head of Financial Management and Business Support
 Helean Hughes – Head of Education, Learning & Skills & Virtual Headteacher
 Duane Chappell – Team Leader, Child Health and Disability Team
 Mark Stuart – Interim Senior Finance Manager, Integra
 Tamsin Moreton – Schools Finance Team, Leader, Integra
 Davina Gibbon – Corporate Finance

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Attendees were welcomed by the Chair.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Berbice Webber, John Goff, Mark Freeman
 Elizabeth Gibbons has resigned

3. EVACUATION PROCESS

The Chair drew attention to the emergency evacuation procedure

4. ANY OTHER ITEMS THE CHAIR DECIDES ARE URGENT

None

5. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 29 NOVEMBER 2017

Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

None

7. REQUEST FOR FUNDING FROM SOUTH GLOUCERSTERSHIRE SCHOOLS FORUM SCHOOLS SPECIFIC CONTINGENCY FUND

Confidential item

Agreed

Schools Forum agreed the bid. This is subject to acknowledgement that whilst there is a saving on appointing NQT's there is a increased CPD cost and that moving forward that if more experienced teachers are appointed in future the salary cost would be greater but the demand for CPD would be reduced. The school will be required to provide a progress report back to Schools Forum before the end of the summer term on the impact the funding has had including on teaching and learning and pupil outcomes.

8. UPDATE ON DSG FUNDING SETTLEMENT 2018-19

Mustafa Salih presented the report which included a re-cap of the process to date including schools consultation, Schools Forum approval and the application to the Secretary of States for approval to transfer funding from the Schools to High Needs Block. We now have 2018/19 data to model funding depending on whether or not SoS approval received. We have received a positive response from the SoS but further information is required by 23rd January.

MS also provided an update on the latest 2018/19 DSG block funding. No approval is required as Schools Forum has already provided this.

Schools Forum noted the report

9. REVIEW OF SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE RESOURCE BASES

Duane Chappell presented the report. Benchmarking data highlighted that our per pupil costs are higher than othe English LA's. The review included looking at SLA's, place led funding and place rates, attendance and staffing. MS stated that this work had been undertaken as part of the High Needs Working Group remit to review high needs expenditure.

Agreed

Schools Forum agreed that the LA undertake further work/activities on recommendations 1-6 under phase 2 of the review

10. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Agreed

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCIL SPECIAL AND EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY STRATEGY

Purpose of the Report

1. This report not only provides an update on the consultation process for the draft SEND Strategy but also starts to map out potential areas of investment associated with the activities identified in the draft SEND Strategy. The SEND Strategy is a shared document and activities will be commissioned by schools, the local authority and the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

Legislation and Policy

2. In December 2016 (updated November 2017), the DfE introduced the High Needs Strategy Fund which was to support local authorities to carry out a strategic review of their high needs provision with schools, colleges and other providers and with parents and young people. There is an expectation that each local authority has a SEND Strategy in place which identifies the demand for services and specialist school places alongside a clear action plan. The November 2017 SEND Ofsted inspection in South Gloucestershire, highlighted the need to have an up to date approved strategy in place as soon as possible. At the time of the inspection, South Gloucestershire was in the early stages of coproducing a strategy which would replace a previous SEN strategy (2012-1016).

Background

3. The local authority has worked in partnership with the Parent Carer Forum in the coproduction of the draft SEND Strategy; this has ensured that the voice of the family is central to the planning of services and provision.

A series of open engagement events were held between September and October 2017 and online feedback was also collected. In total, 150 responses were gathered and these help shape the draft SEND Strategy. As part of the drafting process a number of other events/meetings have taken place and feedback has been incorporated. Other events include:

- Regular discussion item at the 0-25 Improvement Board (internal local authority and CCG meeting)
- Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board (multiagency Board)
- Children and Young People Partnership Board (multiagency Board)
- Local Authority Equalities Forum
- Primary Headteacher meetings

- Secondary Headteacher meetings
 - Special school headteacher meetings
 - Educational Psychology Service
 - 0-25 Service
4. The formal consultation of the draft SEND Strategy started on 15th January and will close on the 12th March 2018. A further two consultation events have been set up in February with in excess of 70 people booked onto the sessions. Once the consultation is closed the Strategy will be revised based on the feedback received and approval sought from both the council and CCG. A summary of the draft SEND Strategy is attached and a full copy can be accessed via the following link: <http://www.southglos.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/care-and-support-children-families/local-offer/local-offer-send-strategy/local-offer-send-strategy/>
5. The draft SEND Strategy is a high level document, outlining a number of activities under the six priority areas which are as follows:
- i. Access to information, advice and signposting
 - ii. Timely identification and assessment leading to improved
 - iii. Lead, co-ordinate and ensure accountability
 - iv. Plan sufficient services and provision to be available within the community
 - v. Plan ahead for smooth transitions
 - vi. Support, training and development

There is work underway to write an action plan that would ensure delivery of the activities once the SEND Strategy has received approval from the appropriate bodies. Some activities require funding and will need to be approved by commissioners. The approach of local first is paramount and will run alongside the SEND Strategy principle of, ensuring financial sustainability. This principle is outlined in the SEND Strategy, *“Ensuring financial sustainability – SEND budgets will be spent creatively, carefully and efficiently, and have a real understanding of what types of investment best benefit our children. Provision and services will be jointly commissioned to ensure clear pathways between services whilst improving financial sustainability”*

It is expected that funding of new activities will result in a longer term reduction in spend in other SEND areas. In essence a “spend to save” approach. For example, the introduction of a team to support children with autism in their local schools will reduce the likelihood of exclusions of pupils with challenging behaviour and the need to access specialist provision (e.g. special schools and independent specialist provision). It is important that these activities are carefully designed to ensure that they do deliver savings in the long term whilst meeting current need in South Gloucestershire schools.

6. The table below highlights some of the activities that may require some specific funding:

Priority in Strategy	Brief outline
1b 1c 1d	Co-produce the design and content of the Local Offer with children and parents with a focus on information being available at each stage of a child's journey and to develop a system where the local offer website is reviewed.
2a	Secure the timely involvement of health practitioners community paediatricians, speech and language therapists, physiotherapists, an occupational therapists to support assessment and identification of SEND and to ensure needs are met within 18 weeks
2b 2c	All requests for support from Child and Mental Health Services (CAMHS) are met within nationally required standards All requests for an autism diagnosis are met within an appropriate timescale, with the aspiration of achieving compliance with NICE Guidance
2d	Implement the recommendations from the Early Help Review in order to provide a smooth transition between early help, SEN Support and EHC needs assessment
2f	The School Nurse Service will continue to support pupils with continence issues at tier 1, to comply with the latest service specification agreement and across the area we will ensure there is a clear continence pathway
2k	Schools to have a designated mental health lead and be able to request involvement from CAMHS, linking with the Public Health Primary mental health specialist for schools
2l	Broaden the offer of support available to Early Years settings – the Portage service
2m	Support the professional development of SENCOs in all schools and settings - 30 days of SENCO time to provide 3 days training for 10 SENCOs for a year
2n	Develop SEND school clusters that are sector led and can commission services across a group of schools
2o	Implement the London Leadership SEND Strategy school based review process – programme of 10 schools to be funded in phase 1 as part of the Integra SLA with the LA.
2q	Produce a business case for an Education Support Service for autism providing access to advisory teachers and speech and language therapy
2r	The EHC needs assessment (EHCna) and EHC plan process will be effective resulting in high quality plans with clear outcomes that are reviewed. – 1.5 Speech and Language therapist/educational psychologist
3f	Develop a shared outcomes framework to ensure the successful delivery of SEND provision and support across the local area
4c	A bespoke section of the circadian leisure website is developed for families of children with SEND
4d	Implement the recommendations from the Short Breaks Review ensuring these are in line with the family's needs and co-produce a Short Break Statement which will be reviewed annually
4g	Plan, implement, review and develop specialist early years, schools and college provision in the local area

Priority in Strategy	Brief outline
4m	Deliver post 16 provision with SGS College at the planned site 'The Chase' in Stroud
4n	Deliver a Free Special School for children with severe, profound and multiple learning difficulties in Alveston
4o	Jointly commission parenting programmes to support children with complex needs i.e. Autism ADHD learning disability
4r	Review the SENDIAS offer to determine arrangements for support to parents and to support post 16 students
4s	Determine with the Parent Carer Forum which meetings they need to be involved with on an annual basis
4v	Establish a Young People's SEND Board
5f	Development of supported employment/Apprenticeships/Traineeships and Internships across a range of employers including South Gloucestershire Council
6b	Review what support and training is available for parents currently and plan what needs to be in place for future to empower and enable families to support their children with SEND

Recommendation

1. For the Schools Forum to note that the consultation on the draft SEND Strategy closes on March 12th 2018 and that the SEND Strategy includes a range of activities, some of which will require the development of a funding strategy.
2. That the Schools Forum is formally asked to consider and offer its views on the draft SEND Strategy as part of the Council's consultation process.

Authors

Sarah Hayes
Strategic Lead for SEND / Principal Educational Psychologist

Kate East
SEN Consultant

Background Papers

Draft SEND Strategy summary document (attached as separate document)

NEW REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FROM THE SCHOOLS IN FINANCIAL CONTINGENCY

Papers to follow

SCHOOLS FORUM FORWARD PLAN

1 st March 2018 @ 4.30pm Room 0012 Ground Floor	10 th May 2018 @ 4.30pm Room 0012 Ground Floor
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEND STRATEGY • NEW REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FROM THE SCHOOLS IN FINANCIAL CONTINGENCY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

12 th July 2018 2018 @ 4.30pm Room 0012 Ground Floor
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

Proposed Dates:

20th September 2018 4.30pm 0012
 25th October 2018 4.30pm 0012
 29th November 2018 4.30pm 0012

ANY OTHER BUSINESS