



Dudley Schools Forum

**Tuesday 25th November, 2014 at 6.00pm
at Saltwells Education Development Centre,
Bowling Green Road, Netherton, Dudley**

Agenda - Public Session **(Meeting open to the public and press)**

1. Introductions by the Chair
2. Apologies for absence.
3. To report the appointment of any substitutes for this meeting of the Forum.
4. To approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of the meeting of the Forum held on 21st October, 2014 (attached).
5. Any other matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting of the Forum held on 21st October, 2014 not included on the agenda for this meeting.
6. Family Support Workers working in Early Years Settings.
7. Dedicated Schools Grant Projected Outturn Update 2014/15 (Pages 1 - 4)
8. Early Years Pupil Premium and Funding for Disadvantaged Two Year Olds – DfE Consultation Outcomes (Pages 5 - 37)
9. Local Authority Provisional Funding Pro-Forma for 2015/16 (Pages 38 - 40)
10. Schools Forum Membership Update (Pages 41 - 45)
11. Schools Forum Meeting Schedule - Provisional Agenda Items for December (Pages 46)

12. Dates of Future Meetings

16 th December, 2014	Saltwells Education Development Centre, Bowling Green Road, Netherton, DY2 9LY.
27 th January, 2015	Saltwells Education Development Centre, Bowling Green Road, Netherton, DY2 9LY.
24 th February, 2015	Saltwells Education Development Centre, Bowling Green Road, Netherton, DY2 9LY.
24 th March, 2015	Saltwells Education Development Centre, Bowling Green Road, Netherton, DY2 9LY.
2 nd June, 2015	Saltwells Education Development Centre, Bowling Green Road, Netherton, DY2 9LY.
7 th July, 2015	Saltwells Education Development Centre, Bowling Green Road, Netherton, DY2 9LY.



Director of Corporate Resources

Dated 17th November, 2014

Distribution:

Members of Dudley Schools Forum

Mr Bate; Mrs Belcher; Mr Conway; Mr Derham; Mrs Garratt; Mrs Hannaway; Mrs N Jones; Mr Kelleher; Mr Kilbride; Mrs Kings; Mr Nesbitt; Mr Oakley; Mr Patterson; Mrs Quigley; Mr Ridley; Ms Rogers; Mrs Ruffles; Mr Shaw; Mrs Stowe; Mr Ward; Mrs Withers; Mrs Wylie

Non-Voting Attendees

Councillor T Crumpton - Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services;
Councillor M Mottram - Chair of the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee;
P Sharratt – Interim Director of Children's Services;
H Powell/T Brittain – Acting Assistant Director of Children's Services;
I McGuff – Assistant Director of Children's Services;
K Cocker – Children's Services Finance Manager, Directorate of Corporate Resources;
S Coates – Principal Accountant, Directorate of Corporate Resources.

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- The Democratic Services contact officer for this meeting is Helen Shepherd, Telephone 01384 815271 or E-mail helen.shepherd@dudley.gov.uk

MINUTES OF DUDLEY SCHOOLS FORUM

Tuesday, 21st October, 2014 at 6.00 pm
at Saltwells Education Development Centre,
Bowling Green Road, Netherton, Dudley

PRESENT:-

Mr L Ridney - Chair

Mrs R Wylie - Vice Chair

Mr K Bate, Mrs J Belcher, Mr J Conway, Mr C Derham, Mrs N Jones, Mr J Kelleher, Mr P Nesbitt, Mr B Oakley, Mr B Patterson, Ms P Rogers, Mrs H Ruffles, Mr N Shaw, Ms M Stowe and Mrs G Withers.

Person(s) not a member of the Forum but having an entitlement to attend meetings and speak

Councillor T Crumpton (Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Lifelong Learning), Councillor M Mottram (Chair of Children's Services Scrutiny Committee) and Ms P Sharratt (Interim Director of Children's Services)

Officers

Mr H Powell (Acting Assistant Director of Children's Services - Education Services), Mr A Kinsella (Senior Information Analyst), Mr A Trim (Information Analyst (Attainment)) (Directorate of Children's Services); Mrs K Cocker (Children's Services Finance Manager), Mrs S Coates (Senior Principal Accountant) and Miss H Shepherd (Democratic Services Officer), Directorate of Corporate Resources

29. Introductions by the Chair

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

30. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Mrs A Garratt, Mrs A Hannaway, Mr B Jones, Mr D Ward and Mr B Warren.

31. Substitute Member

It was noted that Ms M Stowe was serving as a substitute member on behalf of Mr B Jones for this meeting of the Forum only.

32. Minutes

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of the Schools Forum held on 23rd September, 2014, be approved as a correct record and signed.

33. Matters Arising from the Minutes

No issues were raised under this agenda item.

34. The Pupil Premium – Dudley's Data

A report of the Interim Director of Children's Services was submitted and a presentation was given at the meeting in respect of Dudley's Pupil Premium data and closing the gap analysis.

The Senior Information Analyst gave a detailed presentation on the allocation of Pupil Premium funding and how Dudley compared with its national, statistical and geographical neighbours and details in relation to Pupil Premium attainment analysis from both Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4 pupils were provided.

The Senior Information Analyst stated that a quadrant chart had been developed so that schools attainment achievements could be monitored and to identify Schools in receipt of Pupil Premium funding that were not achieving compared to the national average. The chart was used to identify Schools of a similar size, with a similar number of disadvantaged children so that like for like schools would be able to work together to improve their achievements and learn from each other's practices.

In response to a question raised, the Acting Assistant Director of Children's Services (Education Services) stated that currently only data analysis was available in relation to attainment but information could be obtained on the progression in attainment that Pupil Premium students were achieving for the future.

A Primary School Head teacher representative made a comment in relation to the number of pupil premium students that were also captured into other categories, specifically referring to Special Educational Needs, which impacted on performance achievements and varied year on year.

Arising from a question raised by a non-school member it was stated that there was no similar comparison available with national authorities on attainment as the data presented was a locally determined analysis.

In referring to the quadrant chart, members raised concerns in relation to the number of schools that were placed in zone four of the chart which highlighted schools with above the national average number of pupil premium pupils for whom attainment was below the national floor standard for key stage 2 and key stage 4 pupils.

A Secondary School Head teacher representative agreed that the results were concerning but it was considered that the last academic year had been difficult and challenging with the changes implied by central government and supported the analysis of information in relation to the progress of Pupil Premium students being provided in the future.

The Information Analyst (Attainment) then gave a presentation on 'closing the gap' which related to the attainment gap between vulnerable and non-vulnerable cohorts.

Following the presentation, the Acting Assistant Director of Children's Services (Education Services) reminded forum members of the role of Schools Forum and the importance of members being aware of how Schools within Local Authority control were performing and the impact of funding decisions made by the forum in respect of Dudley schools. Similar reports would be submitted for future consideration along the same theme of school improvement.

Arising from a question raised by a non-school member, the Acting Assistant Director of Children's Services (Education Services) stated that particular focus had been given to primary schools to ensure that all primary schools obtained a 'good' standard from Ofsted and that Primary School Head teachers had met to discuss what each school was doing in relation to pupil premium and what benefits were being achieved. Secondary Schools would now be addressed and discussion sessions would be arranged to consider what could be done to close the gap and to share good practices.

Concerns were raised by Members as to whether Pupil Premium funding was being used effectively by schools to ensure that the required standards were achieved.

Resolved

That the information contained in the report submitted, and presented at the meeting in respect of The Pupil Premium – Dudley's Data, be noted.

35. Feedback on the Consultation on Allocation from Dudley's Dedicated Schools Grant Reserve for 2015/16 and 2016/17

A report of the Interim Director of Children's Services was submitted to provide consultation feedback in order for Members to approve a methodology to allocate a one-off funding of £4 million to schools from the Dedicated Schools Grant Reserve over a two year period 2015/16 and 2016/17. An updated copy of Appendix 1 to the report submitted highlighting a summary of all responses received in relation to the consultation was circulated to Members at the meeting to reflect the full consultation responses.

The Senior Principal Accountant stated that the Head Teachers Consultative Forum – Budget Working Group had considered a number of methods for the funding to be distributed and a recommendation was made for the allocation to be made via the Lump Sum Factor within Dudley's School funding resource allocation formula. Two options for the allocation through the Lump Sum were proposed, as indicated in Table 1 of the report submitted.

The Senior Principal Accountant referred to each question of the consultation individually and members expressed their views and voted on their preferred proposal option as follows:

Question 1 Do you agree that any allocation from Dudley's Dedicated Schools Grant Reserve for 2015/16 and 2016/17 be allocated through the Lump Sum factor within the Dudley School funding resources allocation formula?

Decision: All Members present at the meeting and eligible to vote agreed with the proposal.

Question 2 Option 1: £18,500 for all schools

Decision: No member present at the meeting voted in favour of this proposal.

Option 2: £14,000 for mainstream primary schools, special schools, PRU's and maintained nursery school and £38,500 for mainstream secondary schools

Decision: All members present at the meeting and eligible to vote agreed with the proposal.

Resolved

- (1) That the information contained in the report submitted and as circulated at the meeting in relation to the consultation on the allocation from Dudley's Dedicated Schools Grant Reserve for 2015/16 and 2016/17, be noted.
- (2) That the views and comments of the forum members as referred to above be taken into consideration by the Interim Director of Children's Services when implementing the arrangements for the allocation of £4 million from the Dedicated Schools Grant Reserve over the 2015/16 and 2016/17 financial years.

36. Schools Revenue Funding Arrangements in 2015/16 – Growth Fund

A report of the Interim Director of Children's Services was submitted on the proposed criteria and methodology to be applied in respect of the allocation of funding to schools from a centrally retained Growth Fund Contingency in 2015/16.

The Senior Principal Accountant referred to the increased pressures and demands for Primary School places and stated that it was expected that there would be an increase in Primary School population of approximately 400 pupils in September 2015. Some contingencies to accommodate the additional pupils had been arranged and a number of Primary Schools had created additional places to meet the demands, however concerns had been raised in relation to the allocation of Individual Schools Budget funding as this was based on the number of pupils in School at the previous October School Census and therefore there would be a delay between admitting pupils at the start of an academic year and receiving funding for the additional pupils by the school's affected.

It was considered that a contingency fund should be made available to support the Schools that satisfy the eligibility criteria and admit additional pupils from September 2015. It was proposed that this funding would be allocated from the Dedicated Schools Grant Reserve and not from a top slice of local schools budgets during the 2015/16 financial year.

The Senior Principal Accountant referred to the proposed criteria and methodology, as outlined in table 1 of the report submitted, that would be applied when allocating the funding and stated that the allocation would be for the period of September to March for maintained schools and September to August for Academies as they were funded on an academic year basis.

Resolved

- (1) That the contents of the report submitted be noted.
- (2) That the proposals made by the Interim Director of Children's Services to create a Growth Fund for 2015/16 and the criteria and methodology as outlined in table 1 of the report now submitted, be approved.

37. DfE Section 251 Planned Expenditure Benchmarking Data for 2014/15

A report of the Interim Director of Children's Services was submitted in respect of the DfE's national Section 251 statistical benchmarking data relating to planned expenditure for the financial year 2014/15.

The Children's Services Finance Manager presented the report and made particular reference to data included in appendices 1 to 3 of the report submitted.

Following the presentation of the report, a Primary School Head teacher raised an issue in relation to Appendix 2a and Dudley's excessive figure in column 25 for Central expenditure on children under 5, in comparison to its statistical neighbours. The Children's Services Finance Manager stated that Dudley's figure incorporated the funding received for the early education of 2 year olds allocated to the authority, which was recorded as advised by the DfE to be held centrally until allocated, which explained the high figure and it could only be assumed that other Authorities had dealt with their funding in a different manner.

Resolved

That the information contained in the report and the appendices to the report submitted in relation to the DfE Section 251 Planned Expenditure Benchmarking Data for 2014/15, be noted.

38. Effective Schools Forum

A report of the interim Director of Children's Services was submitted in respect of Section 2 – Effective Schools Forum of the Education Funding Agency's operational and good practice guide, a copy of which was re-circulated to Members as appendix 1 to the report now submitted.

Resolved

That the information contained in the report and the appendix to the report submitted in respect of an effective schools forum, be noted.

39. Other Business

A Secondary School Governor representative requested that a report be submitted to a future meeting of Dudley Schools Forum in relation to the Universal Free School Meals initiative that had been operational since September 2014 and requested details on how the £860,000 capital funding allocated to the authority to support the implementation of the initiative had been spent and if the local authority had exceeded the funding amount provided how this would be addressed.

The meeting ended at 7.45 pm.

CHAIR

Schools Forum 25th November 2014

Report of the Interim Director of Children's Services

Dedicated Schools Grant Projected Outturn Update 2014/15

Purpose of Report

1. To provide Schools Forum with the latest financial forecast in respect of the Schools Budget for the 2014/15 financial year ended 31st March 2015.

Budget Working Group Discussed

2. No.

Schools Forum Role and Responsibilities

3. From 1 April 2006, the Schools Budget has been funded by a direct Department for Education (DfE) grant: the Dedicated School Grant (DSG).
4. Schools Forum is the 'guardian' of the local Schools Budget, and its distribution among schools and other bodies, and therefore must be closely involved throughout the development process.

Action for Schools Forum

5. To note the 2014/15 forecast financial outturn in respect of the Schools Budget summarised at Appendix A.

Attachments to Report

6. Appendix A - Dedicated Schools Grant forecast Outturn Statement 2014/15.

Karen Cocker
Children's Service Finance Manager
11th November 2014

Schools Forum 25th November 2014

Report of the Interim Director of Children's Services

Dedicated Schools Grant Projected Outturn Update 2014/15

Purpose of Report

1. To provide Schools Forum with the latest financial forecast in respect of the Schools Budget for the 2014/15 financial year ended 31st March 2015.

Background

2. The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) funds the Schools Budget. The Schools Budget is a combination of centrally retained budgets together with the ISB (Individual Schools Budget).
3. The DSG is a ring fenced grant and can only be applied to meet expenditure properly included in the Schools Budget, as defined by the School Finance and Early Years Regulations 2013.
4. At final outturn stage, the local authority is required to append an additional note to the Statement of Accounts confirming the deployment of the DSG in support of the Schools Budget, as required by the Accounts and Audit (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2006. The Chief Finance Officer is also required to confirm final deployment of the DSG in support of the Schools Budget in connection with the section 251 outturn form.
5. This report is a mid year update position at 30th September 2014 in respect of the central budget areas of the DSG for the 2014/15 financial year. For the purposes of declaring the DSG outturn, the amount of Individual Schools Budget (ISB) actually distributed to schools is regarded, for DSG purposes, as spent by the authority once it is deployed to schools' budget shares. Thus whilst the Individual Schools Budgets (ISB) element of the DSG can be under-spent this is recorded as a school's roll-forward.

Dedicated Schools Grant for 2014/15

6. For the 2014/15 financial year the DSG is currently £235.700m which, after the Academy School budget transfers of £38.394m, is £197.306m of which £21.980m relates to central budgets and £175.326m to Dudley schools. A further £1.789m is payable by the Education Funding Agency in respect of the post 16 pupils in Dudley's 6th form maintained schools.
7. Appendix A indicates that there is forecast under-spending in respect of the central DSG budget for 2014/15 of £1.275m.

- a. £0.458m relates to the high needs block top up contingency fund, which can now be partly released after actioning the September 2014 school transfers in special schools;
 - b. £0.574m relates to the time for twos early years funding for disadvantaged children. The time for twos funding is allocated to providers on a termly basis. Of the £3.2m allocated to Dudley by the DfE based on eligible numbers, the summer term actual take up 2014 was less than expected by the DfE. It is likely that the projected underspend of £0.574m will increase if the Autumn 2014 and Spring 2015 terms take up are less than expected.
 - c. £0.243m relates to lagged DSG income for 2013/14 which was received in June 2014 in respect of the early year's census undertaken in the Spring 2014 term.
8. If an authority's actual spend on central expenditure is less than its central expenditure budget, the under-spend must be carried forward to support the Schools Budget in future years. Where the under spend includes funding in respect of de-delegated items then the surplus funds (or overspending) at the end of the financial year can be carried forward into the next financial year when the schools' budgets will be adjusted accordingly.

Finance

9. The funding of schools is prescribed by the Department for Education (DfE) through the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2013.
10. Schools Forums are regulated by the Schools Forums (England) Regulations 2012.
11. From 1 April 2006, the Schools Budget has been funded by a direct grant: Dedicated School Grant (DSG).

Law

12. Councils' LMS Schemes are made under Section 48 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. The Education Acts 1996 and 2002 also have provisions relating to school funding.

Equality Impact

13. The Council's Equal Opportunities Policy is taken into account when considering the allocation of resources.

Recommendation

14. Schools Forum to note the 2014/15 forecast outturn position in respect of the Schools Budget, which is funded by the Dedicated School Grant.



Pauline Sharratt

Interim Director of Children's Services

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Appendix A

Dedicated Schools Grant Forecast Outturn 2014/15 at 30th September 2014

Directorate of Children's Services DSG Budget Area	2014/15 DSG Latest Budget £m	2014/15 DSG Forecast Outturn £m	2014/15 Variance () =u'spend £m	Outturn to Budget %	Comments
Individual Schools Budget (ISB)	173.926	173.926	0*	100%	*schools can roll-forward any under spend
Post 16 pupil - 6 th Form Funding (Nursery, Primary, Secondary & Special)	1.789	1.789	0	100%	Two Dudley 6 th form schools.
De- Delegated Budgets	1.400	1.400	0	100%	
Centrally Retained Budgets	21.980	20.948	(1.032)	95.3%	£0.458m for the high needs block contingency allocation for in year adjustments in relation to special educational needs top up arrangements. £0.574m time for twos early education for disadvantaged children.
DSG Prior Years (2013/14)	0	(0.243)	(0.243)	(100%)	DfE lagged funding for nursery education for 2013/14 notification received in June 2014
Education Funding Agency (EFA) 6 th form grant	(1.789)	(1.789)	0	(100%)	Bishop Milner's allocation is payable directly by the EFA from 1.9.2013 after conversion to Academy School status.
Total DSG payable to Dudley 2014/15	197.306	196.031	(1.275)	99.4%	
Academy Schools Funding	38.394	38.394	0	100%	Allocated to Academy School directly via the Education Funding Agency
Total DSG 2014/15	235.700	234.425	(1.275)	99.4%	

Schools Forum 25th November 2014

Report of the Interim Director of Children's Services

Early Years Pupil Premium and Funding for Disadvantaged Two Year Olds – DfE Consultation Outcomes

Purpose of Report

1. To provide Schools Forum with an update in respect of the DfE consultation outcomes in respect of the Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) and funding for disadvantaged two year olds proposals.

Budget Working Group Discussed

2. Yes – 20th November 2014.

Schools Forum Role and Responsibilities

3. From 1st April 2006, the Schools Budget has been funded by a direct Department for Education (DfE) grant: the Dedicated School Grant (DSG).
4. Schools Forum is the 'guardian' of the local Schools Budget, and its distribution among schools and other bodies, and therefore must be closely involved throughout the development process.
5. The Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) and funding for disadvantaged two year olds is included within the annual Dedicated Schools Grant.

Action for Schools Forum

6. To note the outcomes of the DfE recent consultation and consider the impact of the changes for Dudley children.

Attachments to Report

7. Appendix A – Consultation on early years pupil premium and funding for 2-year-olds Government response October 2014.

Karen Cocker
Children's Services Finance Manager
11th November 2014

Schools Forum 25th November 2014

Report of the Interim Director of Children's Services

Early Years Pupil Premium and Funding for Disadvantaged Two Year Olds – DfE Consultation Outcomes

Purpose of Report

1. To provide Schools Forum with an update in respect of the DfE consultation outcomes in respect of the Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) and funding for disadvantaged two year olds proposals.

Background

2. The budget fact sheet issued in September 2014 advised that a consultation regarding Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) and Funding for disadvantaged 2 year olds was launched by the DfE on 25th June 2014 until 22nd August 2014.
3. It sought views on the extension of the pupil premium into early years, in order to better support the early education of disadvantaged three and four year olds. It asked questions on the mechanics of extending the premium, including checking eligibility; holding providers accountable for the use of the funding; and examples of good practice in supporting disadvantaged children. It also asked for views on managing the first year of participation funding for the early education entitlement for two-year-olds in 2015/16.
4. A number of changes were proposed in particular:
 - **A Pupil Premium**
 - Of approximately £300 per year (£0.53 per hour) will be introduced for 3 and 4 year olds from low income families effective from April 2015. A child will be eligible if they are three or four years old receiving 15 hours of Government funded early education, and meet one of the following criteria:
 - Those families meeting the criteria for free school meals;
 - Children that have been looked after for at least one day;
 - Children that have been adopted from care;
 - Children that have left care through special guardianship; and
 - Children subject to a child arrangement order.

- **Funding for two year olds**

- Will be based on participation rather than the target number of places with effect from September 2015; and
- Trajectory funding will not be available to Local Authorities from 2015/16.

Consultation Outcomes

5. On 23rd October the DfE issued their response to the consultation which advises that the respondents were very supportive of the government's proposal to extend the pupil premium into the early years. Respondents agreed with the case made in the consultation document that all children can benefit from access to early education, and that disadvantaged children will benefit in particular from additional resources in order to achieve outcomes on a par with their peers. Some respondents noted the approach to allocating the EYPP means that it will be targeted on children that most need it, regardless of whether or not they live in a disadvantaged area. Some early years providers felt that it would enable them to support children from disadvantaged backgrounds better, by taking specific action to help them.
6. Both local authorities and providers highlighted the potential administrative burden associated with determining those children that are eligible for the premium. As a result the government will bring forward an amendment to the Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Bill to enable local authorities to use the existing Eligibility Checking Service to check children's eligibility for the EYPP. To support providers to encourage parents to identify as eligible for the premium they will produce guidance and case studies of good practice.

DfE Next Steps

7. **Early Years Pupil Premium**

- The DfE will implement an EYPP in April 2015 as proposed in the consultation document. They will amend the School and Early Years Finance Regulations to set a national hourly rate for the EYPP which local authorities must pay to providers.
- Local authorities will be allocated initial funding for 2015/16 as per the allocations published alongside the consultation document; for Dudley this is £308,675 as per Table 1. There will be a mandatory mid-year survey in the autumn 2015 to check take-up of the EYPP, and make adjustments to allocations in light of that.
- Government to bring forward an amendment to the Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Bill to enable the Eligibility Checking Service to be used for the EYPP.
- Early implementation of EYPP from January 2015 in a representative group of local authorities.
- Government to publish guidance to local authorities on administering the funding and eligibility checking of the EYPP later in 2014.
- Ofsted to update their inspection frameworks to set out that effective use and impact of the EYPP will be assessed under the leadership and management judgement.

- The DfE will retain the mandatory deprivation supplement in the Early Years Single Funding Formula and encourage local authorities to consider using their deprivation supplement to increase the local rate of Early Years Pupil Premium.
- The DfE will extend the current Study of Early Education and Development (SEED) research to include an assessment of the impact of EYPP on the quality of early years settings included in the study. An interim report will be available in summer 2016.
- The DfE will conduct a survey of providers part way through the financial year to see how providers are spending their EYPP and to identify early evidence of impact.

8. Participation Funding for two-year-olds

- For 2015/16 initial funding for the two year old programme will be confirmed to local authorities in June 2015 using the January 2015 census data. Beforehand, local authorities will have to estimate their DSG funding in preparation for the 2015/16 financial year. To make sure local authorities are accurately funded as the take-up of the entitlement increases over the year, the DfE will use a mid-year second data count in the autumn term to adjust funding in-year to reflect any significant increases in take-up of the entitlement. The additional data collection is not intended to provide real time funding, but rather allow the department to make an in-year adjustment to reflect major increases in participation rates in the first year.
- Local authorities are expected to submit the additional data on a voluntary basis to avoid unnecessary burden. The initial 2015/16 funding allocation will remain the same if local authorities choose not to submit an autumn count.
- In 2016/17 funding will be allocated on the same basis as for the three- and four-year-old entitlement, based on the January 2016 census. However, the DfE will keep under review whether a second data count is needed in 2016/17 to adjust funding in year two if take-up levels do not stabilise in the first year.
- As the DfE cannot confirm initial allocations for 2015/16 until June, to assist local authorities plan their budgets, they have published local authorities 2015/16 per child hourly rates for two-year-olds have now been issued. For Dudley this will remain at £4.89 per hour and will be used to estimate the 2015/16 funding.

Impact for Dudley

9. The EYPP initial allocation for 2015/16 is as detailed in Table 1. This is based on the DfEs estimated numbers and will be updated during 2015/16 based on actual census data once their process has been determined. Further DfE clarification is required regarding the process for determining how DSG funds will be allocated to local authorities for the EYPP on an annual basis.
10. In order for parents to register, there is an option for Dudley parents to use the online free schools meals application process to determine eligibility for the EYPP. However, a further option would be to extend the current Time for Twos online

eligibility checker to cover EYPP for three and four year. Further information will be shared with schools and providers in due course.

11. Dudley will use the DfE Eligibility Checking Service to validate the parental registration for the EYPP on behalf of three and four year olds in early years settings. Dudley is reviewing the process for identifying and capturing data from providers in order to allocate the funding. The termly provider headcount could be used to identify children in private and voluntary settings with the schools census being used for maintained schools. This process will need to be in place by April 2015.
12. Further DfE guidance is expected later in 2014.

Table 1 - Early Years Pupil Premium Allocations for 2015/2016

Proxy FSM Numbers (PTE)	'Headcount' EYPP eligible	Initial allocations
1,022	1,072	£308,675

13. As regards participation funding for disadvantaged two year olds in 2015/16, there will be a requirement for Dudley to estimate the funding for 2015/16 before receiving confirmation from the DfE in June 2015. The DfE are also advising all local authorities to consider setting aside funding from their central Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) reserve in 2015/16 to fund the expected increase in take up of disadvantaged two year old funding which will continue after the January 2015 participation census date for 2015/16 funding purposes. Schools Forum will be advised of the amount it is considered prudent to set aside in February/March 2015 as soon as the latest participation trend data after the January 2015 census is known.
14. For 2014/15, Dudley received funding for two years split into two categories. As detailed in Table 2.

Table2 – 2014/15 Two Year Old Funding for Early Education Entitlement for Disadvantaged Children

<u>Targeted Funding</u>	<u>Criteria</u>	<u>Dudley Funding 2014/15</u>
Eligible Target Numbers (revenue related)	40% disadvantaged children from September 2-2014 – target reach 1754	£3,264,000
Trajectory Funding (capital related)	To build capacity to deliver the programme	£506,374

15. For 2014/15, there is a projected under spend of £0.574m of a £3.2m allocation due to a shortfall in the take up of the two year old provision. This is reflective of the national position and as a result Dudley has recently undertaken a borough wide promotion and marketing campaigns to encourage take up of two year old places;

this includes direct mail to those parents identified on the termly DWP (Department for Works and Pensions) lists, which identify families with children in the eligible birth date range; promotion of the offer across all Dudley Job Centre Plus offices to encourage parents in to employment and training and to support those on low incomes and with internal and external education and training providers. In addition, the offer has been presented to Dudley Looked After Children's teams, to encourage take up of places for foster and adoptive parents, and with the Family Intervention Team who are identifying families they are working with who may have an eligible child. An on-line application and self check form has been developed for parents on the Time for Two's website which gives parents a response within 1 day.

16. The intention is to increase the take up in readiness for the January 2015 participation census. Government funding for Dudley from 2015/16 will still be based on £4.89 per hour but rather than the current DfE funding methodology, which is based on eligible target numbers of two year olds, it will be based on actual take up recorded on the January census in future. Forum will be updated on the forthcoming financial year estimated funding position in February/March as part of the DSG budget forecast for 2015/16.
17. At this stage it is the intention that for 2015/16, the hourly rate payable by Dudley to the providers of time for twos provision will remain at £4.50 per hour with the additional £0.39p being allocated to fund the family support workers in the early years settings. A further report will be presented to Schools Forum in the Spring term for a final discussion regarding the rates payable.
18. Dudley will be submitting an additional voluntary data count to the DfE in the Autumn 2015 to highlight any variances to the January 2015 census count.

Finance

19. The funding of schools is prescribed by the Department for Education (DfE) School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2013.
20. Schools Forums are regulated by the Schools Forums (England) Regulations 2012.
21. From 1st April 2006, the Schools Budget has been funded by a direct grant; Dedicated School Grant (DSG).

Law

22. Councils' LMS Schemes are made under Section 48 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. The Education Acts 1996 and 2002 also have provisions relating to school funding.

Equality Impact

23. The Council's Equal Opportunities Policy is taken into account when considering the allocation of resources.

Recommendation

24. Schools Forum to note the contents of the report regarding the funding for the early years pupil premium and funding for disadvantaged two year olds for 2015/16 with a further report being presented in the Spring 2015 term in respect of the 2015/16 funding requirements.



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Department
for Education

Consultation on early years pupil premium and funding for 2-year-olds

Government response

October 2014

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Introduction

The Government consultation on *Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) and funding for two-year-olds* was published on 25 June 2014. It sought views on the extension of the pupil premium into the early years, in order to better support the early education of disadvantaged three- and four-year-olds. It asked questions on the mechanics of extending the premium, including checking eligibility; holding providers accountable for the use of the funding; and examples of good practice in supporting disadvantaged children.

It also asked for views on managing the first year of participation funding for the early education entitlement for two-year-olds in 2015-16.

In total 461 individuals or organisations responded to the consultation. It was an online consultation, and the majority of responses were received either through the consultation website (55%) or by email (36%). 9 per cent of responses were received by post.

Respondents identified themselves from a range of backgrounds. These are set out in Table 1.

Table 1: Responses to question “What best describes you as a respondent?”

Respondent type	Number of respondents	Percentage of overall number of responses
Local authorities:	120	26%
Other:	66	14%
Private/voluntary provider full	64	14%
Nurseries, including school	47	10%
Childcare or early years	33	7%
Childminder:	27	6%
Maintained nursery schools:	25	5%
Primary schools:	25	5%
Representative bodies:	22	5%
Children’s Centres:	20	4%
Parent/carer:	9	2%
Independent nursery schools:	3	1%

Summary of responses received and the government's response

The majority of respondents to the consultation welcomed the proposals to introduce an EYPP, and agreed with the timetable for introducing participation funding. The potential challenges in implementing these changes – and in particular making sure the the EYPP has the greatest possible impact on outcomes for disadvantaged children – were acknowledged by a number of the respondents.

Main findings from the consultation

We are pleased that the response to the consultation was very supportive of the government's proposal to extend the pupil premium into the early years. Respondents agreed with the case made in the consultation document that all children can benefit from access to early education, and that disadvantaged children will benefit in particular from additional resources in order to achieve outcomes on a par with their peers. Some respondents noted the approach to allocating the EYPP means that it will be targeted on children that most need it, regardless of whether or not they live in a disadvantaged area. Some early years providers felt that it would enable them to support children from disadvantaged backgrounds better, by taking specific action to help them.

Eligibility for the EYPP

A number of groups made the case to extend eligibility for the EYPP to more groups of children. We think that it is important to keep consistency between the EYPP and the school-age pupil premium – this will help to make it clear and simple for parents, schools and providers. Keeping the eligible group focused means that we can get maximum value from the funding available.

Both local authorities and providers highlighted the potential administrative burden associated with determining those children that are eligible for the premium. We are conscious that we want to minimise this as much as possible. The government will, therefore, bring forward an amendment to the Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Bill to enable local authorities to use the existing Eligibility Checking Service to check children's eligibility for the EYPP. To support providers to encourage parents to identify as eligible for the premium, we will produce guidance and case studies of good practice.

Supporting providers to use the EYPP, and holding them to account for effective use

Respondents strongly agreed with the proposal that providers have freedom to decide how to make use of the funding, citing in particular that providers are best placed to understand the particular needs of the disadvantaged children that they work with. They were clear that this needs to be accompanied by a clear and effective accountability

system, as well as guidance for providers on how to make best use of the EYPP in supporting disadvantaged children.

We will identify and share good practice with providers to help inform their planning on how to make the most effective use of EYPP and how to demonstrate impact. We want to ensure that providers have access to support to enable them to effectively identify the needs of disadvantaged children in their setting and draw on the available research and evidence to plan how to meet them and demonstrate impact. During the first year of the EYPP, Ofsted will look for evidence that providers understand and are planning to meet the needs of disadvantaged children.

To help providers access relevant research and practice, we are working with organisations that bring together the evidence on what works in supporting better outcomes for children. From February 2015, the Education Endowment Foundation Teaching and Learning toolkit will be expanded to cover the early years. The toolkit currently provides a summary of educational research to help teachers and schools decide how to use their resources to improve the attainment of disadvantaged children. The expanded toolkit will include research on approaches to improving children's outcomes in the early years and support the effective deployment of resources and staff. In addition to resources that provide access to research, the Early Intervention Foundation Guidebook provides an online library of programmes that can be delivered locally to improve child outcomes including positive early child development.

Respondents felt strongly that peer-to-peer support by early years providers, and providers working together in quality improvement networks, would support good use of the EYPP. The department already supports sector-led improvement, for example the network of teaching school alliances provides an opportunity for schools and private, voluntary and independent providers (PVI) to learn from each other and share resources. Through Teaching Schools we are already testing the development of local hubs of early years practice bringing together all types of early years providers and will look to build on the learning from this in the future. To identify good practice specifically relevant to the EYPP, we will launch a call for evidence in November 2014 asking providers to share effective approaches to identifying and meeting the needs of disadvantaged children. Details of the call for evidence will be announced soon.

Respondents were supportive of the proposal that the main accountability mechanism for the use of the EYPP be through Ofsted inspection. Ofsted have agreed to update their inspection frameworks to set out that effective use and impact of the EYPP will be assessed under the leadership and management judgement. To make this judgement, Ofsted will want to see evidence that a provider has considered how best to invest EYPP funding, how they expect to determine if the money improves a child's outcomes over the short and/or long term and any evidence available on impact already achieved. They will update the provider self-evaluation framework to include questions on the approach that providers are taking to using the EYPP – in particular, how they are making use of the money, which children they are targeting the money on, and how children's outcomes are

improving under the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) – and will ask questions on these areas during inspection. Where a provider is not able to supply this evidence their inspection judgement for the leadership and management judgement may be lowered, and inspectors will make recommendations on how the provider can improve.

Virtual School Heads

A small but significant group of respondents noted the important role that Virtual School Heads play in supporting the use of the school age pupil premium for looked after children, and recommended that they have the same role for the Early Years Pupil Premium. Virtual School Heads should be responsible for managing the allocation of the EYPP for looked after children. For this group of children, funding will not be allocated directly to providers, but instead will be held by the Virtual School Head for the local authority, who will distribute it to providers.

Implementation of Early Years Pupil Premium

In order to ensure that the whole system is ready for the introduction of the EYPP in April 2015, the Government will implement it from January 2015 in a representative group of local authorities. This will give us the opportunity to ensure that systems for funding and for checking eligibility are working smoothly ahead of the introduction of the EYPP in April 2015. The early implementers will also provide examples of how providers are using the EYPP to improve outcomes for disadvantaged children.

We will produce short guidance for local authorities on how to implement the EYPP later this year.

Participation funding

The consultation also asked two questions about our proposed approach to implementing participation funding for the early education entitlement for two-year-olds. The majority of respondents agreed with our proposed approach, to use additional data collection in 2015-16 to allow for in-year adjustment of budgets. We will implement the proposals as set out in the consultation document.

A small number of respondents queried whether the autumn was the best time for this data collection. We appreciate that respondents are concerned that take-up rates are relatively low at the start of autumn term, and will review when in the autumn term would be appropriate to take the second count to give the most accurate picture. We will do the check in autumn so that the additional data collection for both two-year-old participation funding and the EYPP can take place at the same time, in order to minimise any burden on local authorities.

Next steps

Early Years Pupil Premium

- We will implement an EYPP in April 2015 as proposed in the consultation document. We will amend the School and Early Years Finance Regulations to set a national hourly rate for the EYPP which local authorities must pay to providers.
- Local authorities will be allocated initial funding for 2015-16 as per the allocations published alongside the consultation document. These have been published again alongside this response. We will conduct a mandatory mid-year survey in the autumn to check take-up of the EYPP, and make adjustments to allocations in light of that.
- Government to bring forward an amendment to the Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Bill to enable the Eligibility Checking Service to be used for the EYPP.
- Early implementation of EYPP from January 2015 in a representative group of local authorities.
- Government to publish guidance to local authorities on administering the funding and eligibility checking of the EYPP later in 2014.
- Ofsted to update their inspection frameworks to set out that effective use and impact of the EYPP will be assessed under the leadership and management judgement.
- We will retain the mandatory deprivation supplement in the Early Years Single Funding Formula. We encourage local authorities to consider using their deprivation supplement to increase the local rate of Early Years Pupil Premium.
- We will extend the current Study of Early Education and Development (SEED) research to include an assessment of the impact of EYPP on the quality of early years settings included in the study. An interim report will be available in summer 2016.
- We will conduct a survey of providers part way through the financial year to see how providers are spending their EYPP and to identify early evidence of impact.

Participation Funding for two-year-olds

- In 2015-16 initial funding for the two-year-old programme will be allocated to local authorities in June 2015 using the January 2015 census data. To make sure local authorities are accurately funded as the take-up of the entitlement increases over the year, we will use a mid-year second data count in the autumn term to adjust funding in-year to reflect any significant increases in take-up of the entitlement.

The additional data collection is not intended to provide real time funding, but rather allow the department to make an in-year adjustment to reflect major increases in participation rates in the first year.

- Local authorities are expected to submit the additional data on a voluntary basis to avoid unnecessary burden. The initial 2015-16 funding allocation will remain the same if local authorities choose not to submit an autumn count.
- In 2016-17 funding will be allocated on the same basis as for the three- and four-year-old entitlement, based on the January 2016 census. However, we will keep under review whether a second data count is needed in 2016-17 to adjust funding in year two if take-up levels do not stabilise in the first year.

As we cannot confirm initial allocations for 2015-16 until June, to assist local authorities plan their budgets, we are publishing local authorities 2015-16 per child hourly rates for two-year-olds with this response.

Question analysis

Question 1

Do you agree that children from low income families; children in care; or children adopted from care should be eligible for the EYPP?

	Total	Percent
Strongly agree	314	70%
Agree	109	24%
Neither agree or disagree	13	3%
Disagree	7	2%
Strongly disagree	6	1%

There were 449 responses to this question. Respondents were overwhelmingly supportive of the principle of introducing an Early Years Pupil Premium. 94% of those answering this question either agreed or strongly agreed, and only 3% disagreed or strongly disagreed. In their written responses, some respondents noted the benefits of investment in early education, and emphasised that all children should be able to access early education to support their development. Some respondents noted that disadvantaged children will benefit disproportionately from additional support.

Some respondents suggested that other groups of children should be automatically eligible for the EYPP too, including children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (4.2% of respondents); children of serving military personnel (2.2% of respondents); and children that meet the criteria for the early education entitlement for two-year-olds (1.1% of respondents).

A number of private and voluntary providers highlighted concerns that the EYPP would need to be ringfenced, otherwise it would not be passed on to them.

Question 2

Do you agree that providers should ask parents for their National Insurance Number and date of birth, so that local authorities should check eligibility for the EYPP using the Eligibility Checking Service?

	Total	Percent
Yes	320	75%
Not sure	63	15%
No	45	11%

There were 428 responses to this question. Respondents generally agreed with the proposals for checking eligibility – 75% of respondents agreed and only 11% disagreed.

A substantial number of respondents highlighted that eligibility checking could potentially be burdensome for providers and/or for local authorities. They also noted that some parents would be reluctant to identify themselves as eligible.

Respondents raised a number of questions about when eligibility checks should first be carried out, and then how often they should be repeated. These questions are addressed in an accompanying Q&A document. We will publish guidance for local authorities later this year.

One of the things highlighted by the consultation is that different local areas have adopted different mechanisms for checking eligibility for the two-year-old entitlement, and they want to take a similar approach for the Early Years Pupil Premium. We want local areas to adopt the most accurate and efficient way of identifying eligible children in their area. Some of these are described in the accompanying boxes.

Rochdale

All parents wishing to access a Government funded place complete a parental declaration. The form, which is a combined request for the two-year-olds entitlement, asks for the parent's National Insurance number and date of birth. The local authority plans to use this form to assess eligibility for the EYPP, thus avoiding the need for a separate request to the local authority to check eligibility for the EYPP on the parents' part. This system means that parents will only be required to complete one form and supply their personal information once, thus avoiding the risk that parents might be deterred by more form filling if they wish to confirm that their child is entitled to the EYPP for their child.

Merton

Parents have access to an online facility which is hosted on the local authority's website and allows parents to request confirmation of whether they are eligible for a Government funded place. The online facility allows them to enter their personal details into an online eligibility checker. The checker will then tell them if they meet one of the economic criteria for eligibility and provide them with a unique reference number which they use to claim a free place for their child. Once parents have chosen a provider who has a place available for their child, they will give them their reference number. The provider will then request confirmation that the parent is eligible using the same online checker. The online facility could be upgraded to allow parents to check eligibility for the EYPP.

Question 3

Do you agree that if transitional arrangements are necessary for a short time then a paper-check system is the best way of determining eligibility?

	Total	Percent
Strongly agree	71	17%
Agree	181	43%
Neither agree or disagree	104	25%
Disagree	36	9%
Strongly agree	25	6%

There were 417 responses to this question. Respondents were broadly supportive of a paper check system as the best way of determining eligibility if transitional arrangements are necessary. Nonetheless, their responses were clear that this would be a sub-optimal outcome.

Question 4

Do you support an October 2015 census count in order to make an in year adjustment to EYPP allocations?

	Total	Percent
Yes	290	69%
Not sure	83	20%
No	45	11%

There were 418 responses to this question. A majority of respondents agreed with the proposals for an additional census count in October 2015 to assess take up of the EYPP, and to adjust funding if necessary. Some respondents noted that this would help to ensure that funding went to the right children. A small number of respondents highlighted that take up of the early education entitlement is relatively low in the autumn.

Question 5

Do you agree that providers should determine how to use the Early Years Pupil Premium to support their disadvantaged children?

	Total	Percent
Strongly agree	206	48%
Agree	168	39%
Neither agree or disagree	24	6%
Disagree	21	5%
Strongly disagree	11	3%

There were 431 responses to this question. Respondents strongly agreed with the proposal that responsibility for making best use of the EYPP for supporting disadvantaged children should sit with early years providers – 87% of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed, compared with 7% that disagreed or strongly disagreed. Respondents emphasised that providers know children’s individual needs best.

Some respondents (3.5%) noted the important role that Ofsted would play in holding providers to account for their use of the EYPP. Other respondents (16.7%) noted that providers would find it helpful to have guidance about good practice in using the premium. A number of respondents highlighted that local authorities have a role to play, as champions of disadvantaged children, in providing appropriate support to providers.

Question 6

Do you think that in the longer term there should be a more explicit expectation that providers receiving the EYPP should be a part of proven quality improvement arrangements?

	Total	Percent
Strongly agree	145	34%
Agree	176	41%
Neither agree or disagree	54	13%
Disagree	39	9%
Strongly disagree	12	3%

There were 426 responses to this question. The majority of respondents agreed with the idea that, in the longer term, providers should be part of proven quality improvement arrangements. Many respondents highlighted the benefits of particular quality assurance schemes – although some noted that these schemes are unmoderated. Some respondents noted potential benefits from a single, national assurance scheme; others,

however, felt that it is better to have more flexibility for providers to choose the right arrangements for them.

A proportion of respondents (5.4%) noted that there could potentially be a role for local authorities in mediating and signposting providers to appropriate quality assurance. A significant number stated that they thought that Ofsted quality assurance arrangements are sufficient.

Question 7

Do you agree that we should retain a mandatory deprivation supplement in addition to the EYPP?

	Total	Percent
Yes	276	67%
Not sure	97	23%
No	41	10%

There were 414 responses to this question. The majority of respondents agreed with the proposal to maintain a mandatory deprivation supplement in the Early Years Single Funding Formula. There were a number of thoughtful responses on both sides of the question, highlighting the benefits of an approach targeted on individual children rather than on a geographical area; but also the broader challenges faced by providers working in disadvantaged areas.

Question 8

Do you agree that the Department for Education should ask Ofsted to consider these arrangements in its inspection framework?

	Total	Percent
Strongly agree	141	33%
Agree	202	47%
Neither agree or disagree	53	12%
Disagree	26	6%
Strongly agree	9	2%

There were 431 responses to this question. 80% of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed. 12% neither agreed nor disagreed. 8% either disagreed or strongly disagreed. The department have discussed this response with Ofsted, who have agreed to update their inspection frameworks to set out that effective use and impact of the EYPP will be assessed under the leadership and management judgement.

Question 9

What data and evidence do you think providers could use to demonstrate the impact of the EYPP?

There were 241 responses to this question, offering useful suggestions on how providers could demonstrate impact. The majority of responses focussed on tracking child attainment and many suggested using existing assessments to do this such as EYFS learning journeys and the two-year-old progress check. The new baseline assessment at age four was also proposed as a useful data set. Many respondents suggested that gathering parental views would be an important aspect of understanding impact.

Question 10

Do you have any suggestions of other ways to judge whether the EYPP is having the desired impact?

There were 164 responses to this question, which provided helpful suggestions for how we could assess the impact of the EYPP. The most popular suggestions included were commissioning a longitudinal study; introducing Unique Pupil Numbers to enable development and attainment to be tracked from the early years through school; collecting evidence on the attainment gap between disadvantaged children and their peers; and seeking parental views on child progression.

Question 11

Do you have comments on the long-term aspiration of improving data collection so that we can track children through their educational career?

There were 110 responses to this question. Respondents favoured tracking child attainment through either use of NHS numbers or introduction of Unique Pupil Numbers. The department will explore these options further.

Question 12

Do you agree with these proposals for supporting providers and disseminating good practice?

	Total	Percent
Strongly agree	179	43%
Agree	155	37%
Neither agree or disagree	64	15%
Disagree	15	4%
Strongly agree	3	1%

There were 416 responses to this question. 80% of respondents strongly agreed or agreed with the proposals to support providers and disseminate good practice.

Question 13

Are there particular examples of good practice in supporting disadvantaged children that early years providers should be aware of?

There were 154 responses to this question. Respondents focussed on the impact that a positive home learning environment can have on children and working with parents to support children's development. Speech and language support was also thought to be an essential part of any support programme for disadvantaged children and respondents specifically referred to Every Child a Talker and Talk Time.

Respondents were also interested in learning from other providers, particularly those rated outstanding by Ofsted. Accessing peer to peer support was noted as an important way to ensure that children benefit from shared expertise and the Teaching Schools infrastructure was recognised as a way in which this could be facilitated.

Question 14

How can we best disseminate good practice to all early years providers working with disadvantaged children?

There were 266 responses to this question. The majority of early years providers responding to this question wanted to access peer to peer support and training. 47.4% of respondents, many of which were local authorities, suggested that local authorities would be well placed to disseminate good practice.

Question 15

Do you support the proposal to have two data collections to allocate funding for early learning for two-year-olds in 2015-16?

	Total	Percent
Yes	272	66%
Not sure	108	26%
Neither agree or disagree	32	8%

There were 412 responses to this question. The majority of respondents were supportive of the proposal to have two data collections in 2015-16. 66% of respondents agreed with the proposal, 8% disagreed and 26% were unsure.

The respondents felt that the proposal would allow growth in take-up of the two-year-old entitlement to be accounted for in funding allocation.

A small number of respondents noted that the additional data collection should continue beyond 2015-16 until participation levels for the new entitlement stabilises.

Question 16

Do you support using the October count as the second participation funding count for 2015-16?

	Total	Percent
Yes	256	62%
Not sure	113	27%
No	43	10%

There were 412 responses to this question. The majority of responses were in favour of the proposal. 62% of respondents agreed with the proposal, 10% disagreed and 27% were unsure.

Of those that agreed, respondents noted that October would allow time for take-up to have grown following the extended entitlement and would prefer the count to be taken at a later point as possible after the autumn half term as children start after half term points. A small number of respondents that said that the headcount is lowest in the autumn term.

Annex A: List of organisations that responded to the consultation

4Children

Abacus nursery (SW) LTD

Abbey Nursery School

Achieving for Children

Acorn pre-school

Acorns Nursery

Acorns Playgroup

Alderley Edge School for Girls

Allsorts pre-school

Apples and Honey Nursery

Army Families Federation, The

Aspect Group of Prospect

Auntie Edna's Child Care

BabockLDT

Balsall Heath Children's Centre

Barbados Playgroup Ltd

Barnados

Beaumont Lodge Primary School

Bedworth Heath Nursery School

Benington Nursery

Birmingham City Council

Bizzie Bees

Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council

Blackpool Council

Bluebells Day Nursery

Bobtails

Bolton Council

Booktrust

Boston Nursery School

Brambles Community Pre-School

Brenda's Busy Little Bees

Brigh Horizons Family Solutions
Bright Horizons
Bright Sparks
Bright Stars Children's Day Nursery
Brighton & Hove City Council
Bristol City Council
British Association for Adoption and Fostering
British Educational Suppliers Association
Britwell Baptist Preschool
Brook Early Years
Buckinghamshire County Council
Building Blocks Montessori
Bury Council
Bushy Leaze Early Years Centre
Busy Bees
Calderdale MBC
Calmore Pre-school Playgroup
Cambridge Road CP & N School
Cambridgeshire County Council
Cambridgeshire Early Years Service
Carmountside Primary Academy
Catholic Education Service
Central bedfordshire
Cherub Nursery
Cheshire West and Chester Early Years Reference Group
Childhaven Community Nursery School
Childminding Matters
Children services Salford
Children's Links
Choice Childcare
Chris and Debbie Tiny Tots Childminding
Church Hill Nursery School & Children's Centre
City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council
City of York Council
Clocktower Childcare Ltd

Combe Martin Preschool CIC
Communication Trust, The
Community Learning
Coppull Primary School & Children's Centre
Coventry City Council
Crawley Green & Wenlock Pre-School
Croydon Council Early Years working party
Cumbria County Council
Darlington Borough Council
Derbyshire County Council
Devon County Council
Directorate Children and Young People
Doncaster LA
Dorset County Council
Durham Local Authority
Durham Nursery Schools
Early Childhood Forum
Early Education
Early Intervention Foundation
Early Years and Childcare
Early Years and Childcare Team
Early Years Reference Group, Wiltshire Council
East Riding of Yorkshire Council
East Sussex County Council
Eatonbank

Ellenborough and Ewanrigg Infant School
Enfield LA
Essex Early Years Partnership Group
Euxton Pre-School
Everton Nursery School and Family Centre
EYDCP, Southampton City Council
f40 Group of Local Authorities
Fairfield Nursery School and Children's Centre
Family Action

Family and Childcare Trust
Federated nursery schools and children's centres (Stoneygate and Appletree)
First Steps
First Steps Day Nursery
Fledglings Pre-School
Footprints Learning for Life Ltd
Funtime Pre-school
Ganneys Meadow Early Years Centre
Gateshead Council
Gilbert Scott Primary School
GL assessment
Gloucestershire Adoption Team
Gloucestershire County Council and Gloucestershire Schools Forum
Grafton Childcare
Granville Plus Nursery School
Growing places @ Oak Meadow
Gunter Primary
Hampshire County Council
Hampshire County Council SfYC
Happidayz nursery
Happy Days Nurseries Ltd
Happy Hoppers Nursery
Hargrave Park School
Haringey Council
HCC The Aviary Nursery
Healthy Living Centre & Children's Centre
Hempsall's
Hendred pre-school
Hertfordshire County Council
High Greave Schools Federation
Hindley Sure Start Nursery School and Children's Centre
Howard Community Primary School
Huncote Community Association
Independent Association of Prep Schools
Institute of Wellbeing

Independent Schools Association
Isle of Wight Local Authority
Islington Council
Islington Schools Forum
Jigsaw Montessori Nursery
Joint response Ambitious about Autism, Scope, Contact a Family, Building Stronger Families, Every Disabled Child Matters, Family and Childcare Trust
Kent County Council
Kidz First Nursery
Kidz ok ltd
Kim's Childminding Service
Kingston upon Hull City Council
Kingsway Preschool
Kirklees Council
Knowsley MBC – Early Years Service
Lancashire County Council
Lancashire Schools Forum Early Years Local working Group
Lancaster and Morecambe Children's Centres
Leasowe early years School /centre
Leicester City Council
Leicestershire County Council; Early Learning and Childcare Service (0-5 Learning)
Linaker primary school
Lincolnshire County Council
Lindridge CE Primary School
Little Acorns Kindergarten
Little Angels Nursery
Little Oaks Day Nursery
Little Owls Daycare
Little People Nursery
Little springs nursery rugeley
Local Government Association
London Borough of Barking and Dagenham
London Borough of Barnet
London Borough of Bexley
London Borough of Camden

London Borough of Hackney
London Borough of Hounslow
London Borough of Merton
London Borough of Newham
London Borough of Redbridge
London Councils and Association of London Directors of Children's Services (ALDCS)
London Early Years Foundation (LEYF), The
London Youth
Lugley Bugs Childcare

Luton Borough Council
Mama Bear's Day Nursery Ltd
Manchester City Council
Marcham preschool
Mary Paterson nursery school
Maxine Houldsworth's Childminding Service
Mayflower Primary School
Melcombe Primary School & Children's Centre
Menorah Primary School
Merry-go-round Day Nursery
Montessori Schools Association
NASUWT
National Children's Bureau
National Day Nurseries Association
National Early Years Trainers and Consultants Organisation (NeyTCO)
Nettlestead and Wateringbury Preschool and Out of Schools Club
New Road Nursery
Newcastle City Council
Norfolk County Council

North Somerset Council
North Tyneside Council
North Yorkshire County Council
Northamptonshire Childminding Association
Northamptonshire County Council
Northfleet Nursery School

Northumberland County Council
Northumbria University
Northwood Hills Nursery

Nottinghamshire County Council
Nursery School (2-4 years)
Oakmere Children's Nursery
The Association for the Professional Development of Early Years Educators
Old Court Community Pre-School
Oldham Community Health Services
Oldham Council
Once upon A Time Nursery Ltd
Orchard

Oxfordshire County Council
Oxfordshire Schools Forum/Oxfordshire Early Years Working Group
Parkroyal pre-school
patch day nursery, The
Peterborough City Council
Piglets pre-school
Playgroup Network NE CIC
Plymouth City Council (Early Years Service)
Portman Early Childhood Centre, Hub for the North East Locality (Westminster)
Children's Centres
Portsmouth City Council

Pre-school Learning Alliance
Professional Association for Childcare and Early Years
Rainbow Early Years
Rhymetime & Woodleys Nurseries
Rochdale Borough Council
Rosy Apple Childcare Ltd
Royal National Institute of Blind People
Sandcastles Children's Nursery
Sansway House Day Nursery
Scope

Seaham Harbour Nursery School
Sheffield City Council
Sheffield Hallam University
Shepton Mallet Community Infants' School & Nursery
Shiremoor Primary School
Shobdon Arches Preschool
Shropshire Council
Slough Early Years Service
Soho Children's Centre
Somerset County Council
South Darley Pre-school Playgroup
South West Schools' Federation
Southampton City Council
Southwark Council
Spinney Children's Centre, The
Spitfires nursery
St Andrew's C E Primary School
St Andrews Pre School
St Helen's Council
St James Tunbridge Wells
St. Margaret's Nursery School and Children's Centre
St. Mark's Pre-school
Staffordshire County Council
Startpoint Northam
Stepping stones preschool
Stockport County Council
Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council
Suffolk County Council
SunnyDays Playgroup
Surrey Civilian Military Partnership Board, Surrey County Council
Surrey County Council
Surrey Early Years and Childcare Service
Swinton Fitzwilliam Primary School
TACT
TACTYC, The Association for the Professional Development of Early Years Educators

Tameside School Governors' Forum
Tenterfield Nursery and CC
Three Legged Cross First School
Threshers Day Nursery
Tibberton Early Years
Tiddlywinks
Tiny Toez
Topsy Turvy Pre-School
University of Warwick, The
Usworth Colliery Nursery School
Valley Nursery
Virtual School for Children in Care
Virtual school for looked After Children in Northamptonshire, The
Voice the Union
Wakefield Council
Walton Oak School
Wandsworth Borough Council, Early Years and Intervention Service
Warrington Borough Council
Warwickshire Schools Library Service
Well Place Day Nursery
Wellies
Werneth Primary Care Centre
West Berkshire Council
Westminster City Council
Westside Day Nursery
Who Cares? Trust, The
Wigan Council Early learning and Childcare team
Windlesham Village Pre-school
Wirral Schools Forum
Woodcote Pre-School
Woodlands Pre-School
Woolston Community Preschool 1
Worcestershire Association of Governors
Worcestershire County Council



Department
for Education

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Schools Forum 25th November 2014

Report of the Interim Director of Children's Services

Local Authority Provisional Funding Pro-Forma for 2015/16

Purpose of Report

1. To update Schools Forum on Dudley's submission of the provisional Authority Proforma Tool (APT) for 2015/16 to the Education Funding Agency (EFA).

Discussed at HTCF – BWG

2. Yes – 16 October 2014.

Schools Forum Role and Responsibilities

3. From 1 April 2006, the Schools Budget has been funded by a direct DfE grant: Dedicated School Grant (DSG).
4. The Forum is the 'guardian' of the local Schools Budget, and its distribution among schools and other bodies, and therefore must be closely involved throughout the development process.
5. A local authority must consult their Schools Forum and schools maintained by them about any proposed changes to the formulae in relation to the factors and criteria taken into account and the methods, principles and rules adopted

Actions for Schools Forum

6. To note that Dudley's Local Authority APT provisional pro-forma for the 2015/16 financial year to the EFA was submitted by the statutory deadline of 31 October 2014 and that the EFA have now responded to confirm that the data has been checked and is compliant with the Regulations.

Attachments to Report

7. None. Copy of the proforma is available on the Dudley Schools Forum website under Latest News.

Sue Coates
Senior Principal Accountant
11th November 2014

Schools Forum 25th November 2014

Report of the Interim Director of Children's Services

Local Authority Provisional Funding Pro-Forma for 2015/16

Purpose of Report

1. To update Schools Forum members on Dudley's submission of the provisional Authority Proforma Tool (APT) for 2015/16 to the Education Funding Agency (EFA).

Background

2. Under the School Funding Reforms introduced for 2013/14, the local authority is required to submit a pro-forma containing detail of funding proposals for mainstream schools to the EFA; a provisional submission is required by 31st October each year with a final submission on the 20th January preceding the commencement of the financial year. The purpose of this is to enable the EFA to check the proposed funding model for compliance with the school funding regulations in preparation for the forthcoming financial year.
3. Dudley's provisional pro-forma for the 2015/16 financial year was issued to the EFA on 22nd October 2014.
4. On 4th November 2014 the EFA responded to Dudley to advise that the provisional APT submission for 2015/16 had been checked and is compliant with the Regulations. A copy of the proforma has been added to the Schools Forum website under Latest News.
5. The final APT proforma will be submitted in January 2015 and will reflect the Dudley schools budget position for 2015/16.

Finance

6. The funding of schools is prescribed by the Department for Education (DfE) through the School Finance and Early Years (England) Regulations 2013.
7. Schools Forums are regulated by the Schools Forums (England) Regulations 2012.

8. From 1 April 2006, the Schools Budget has been funded by a direct grant: Dedicated School Grant (DSG).

Law

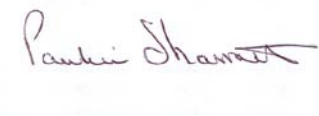
9. Councils' LMS Schemes are made under Section 48 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. The Education Acts 1996 and 2002 also have provisions relating to school funding.

Equality Impact

10. The Council's Equal Opportunities Policy is taken into account when considering the allocation of resources.

Recommendation

11. To note the successful submission and subsequent validation by the EFA of Dudley's Local Authority Proforma Tool for the 2015/16 financial year.



Pauline Sharratt
Interim Director of Children's Services

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Schools Forum 25th November 2014

Report of the Interim Director of Children's Services

Schools Forum Membership Update

Purpose of Report

1. To provide Schools Forum with a membership update.

Budget Working Group Discussed

2. No.

Schools Forum Role and Responsibilities

3. Schools Forum is responsible for ensuring that the constitution and membership meet the legislative requirements detailed in the School Forum (England) Regulations 2012, which were effective from 1 October 2012.

Action for Schools Forum

4. To note the updated position in respect of the membership of Dudley's Schools Forum as detailed in Appendix A.

Attachments to Report

5. Appendix A – Dudley Schools Forum current membership

Karen Cocker
Children's Services Finance Manager
11th November 2014

Schools Forum 25th November 2014

Report of the Interim Director of Children's Services

Schools Forum Membership Update

Purpose of Report

1. To provide Schools Forum with a membership update.

Schools Forum Membership Update

2. Schools Forum Constitution allows for 29 members; comprising of 20 Schools members, 4 Academy School members and 5 Non-schools members.
3. School Member Headteacher posts are elected from their constituent groups at the beginning of each academic year and effective for a three year period from 1st November.
4. There were four vacant positions for election this term; two resulting from the expiry of the term of office and two following resignations.

School Membership Representative - Headteacher Re- Elections

5. There were **two** School Member positions for re-election.
 - Stourbridge township.
Mrs J. Quigley (Wollescote Primary) will continue in post as the Primary Headteacher representative.
This post is for the three year term of office to expire 31st October 2017.
 - Stourbridge township.
Mr P. Kilbride (Oldswinford Hospital School) was elected to the position of Secondary Headteacher representative to replace Mr B. Warren (Summerhill) from 1st November 2014.
This post is for the three year term of office to expire 31st October 2017.

School Membership Representative - Headteacher Resignations

6. There are **two** School Member positions following resignations mid term.
 - Brierley Hill township.
Mrs M. Stowe (Crestwood Park) was elected to the position of Primary Headteacher representative to replace Mr B. Jones (Brockmoor Primary), who has resigned, from 1 November 2014.

This post is for the continuation of the three year term of office to expire 31st October 2016.

- All townships Special Schools.

Mrs J. Kings (Halesbury) was elected to the position of Special Headteacher representative to replace Mr D. Kirk (Rosewood), who has resigned, from 1st November 2014.

This post is for the continuation of the three year term of office to expire 31st October 2015.

7. The decision sheet in respect of these appointments has been prepared for signature by the Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Lifelong Learning.

Finance

8. The funding of schools is prescribed by the Department for Education (DfE) School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2013.
9. Schools Forums are regulated by the Schools Forums (England) Regulations 2012.
10. From 1st April 2006, the Schools Budget has been funded by a direct grant; Dedicated School Grant (DSG).

Law

11. Councils' LMS Schemes are made under Section 48 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. The Education Acts 1996 and 2002 also have provisions relating to school funding.

Equality Impact

12. The Council's Equal Opportunities Policy is taken into account when considering the allocation of resources.

Recommendation

13. Schools Forum to note the contents of the report provided in respect of the Membership update and the details attached at Appendix A.



Pauline Sharratt

Interim Director of Children's Services

Contact Officer: Karen Cocker, Children's Services Finance Manager
Karen.cocker@dudley.gov.uk Tel: 01384 815382

SCHOOLS FORUM MEMBERSHIP at 1.11.2014

<u>SCHOOL MEMBERS</u>	<u>DUDLEY SCHOOLS FORUM CONSTITUTION</u>	GOVERNORS - 3 year term of office					HEADTEACHERS - 3 Year Term of Office		
		1 May 2011 to 30 April 2014	1 May 2012 to 30 April 2015	1 May 2013 to 30 April 2016	1 May 2014 to 30 April 2017	Date of Appointment	1 November 2012 to 31 October 2015	1 November 2013 to 31 October 2016	1 November 2014 to 31 October 2017
<u>Nursery School Headteachers</u>	<u>One nursery headteacher</u>								
<u>Netherton Park Nursery</u>	Mrs Helen Ruffles, Netherton Park Children's Centre, Netherton, Dudley DY2 9QF					Nov-13		√	
<u>Primary School Headteachers</u>	<u>One primary school headteacher for each of the five townships</u>								
Brierley Hill	Mrs M Stowe, Crestwood Park, Lapwood Avenue, Crestwood Park Estate, Kingswinford, DY6 8RP					Nov-14		√	
Central Dudley	Mr Damien Ward, Sledmere Primary, The School Drive, Buffery Road, Dudley, DY2 8EH					Oct-12	√		
Halesowen	M/s Pauline Rogers, St Margaret's at Hasbury Church of England Primary School, Hagley Road, Hasbury, Halesowen, B63 4QD					Oct-12	√		
North Dudley	Mrs Ruth Wylie, Wrens Nest Primary School, Marigold Crescent, Dudley, DY1 3NX					Jan-14		√	
Stourbridge	Mrs J Quigley, Wollescote Primary School, Drummond Road, Wollescote, Stourbridge, DY9 8YA					Nov-14			√
<u>Primary School Governors</u>	<u>One primary school governor for each of the five townships</u>								
Brierley Hill	Mr Len Ridney, The Dingle Primary School			√		May-13			
Central Dudley	Mr Brendan Oakley, Sledmere Primary School, Buffery Road, Dudley, West Midlands, DY2 8EH				√	May-14			
Halesowen	Vacant post Halesowen (ex M Weaver resigned Sept 2014).		√			May-12			
North Dudley	Vacant post Dudley North (ex P Harris). No nominations March 2014								
Stourbridge	Mrs Jill Belcher, Peters Hill Primary School, Peters Hill Road, Amblecote, Brierley Hill, West Midlands, DY5 2QH				√	May-14			
<u>Secondary School Headteachers</u>	<u>One secondary school headteacher for each of the five townships - up to a maximum of three</u>								
Brierley Hill	Dormant township until next elections (ex B Warren)								
Central Dudley	Mrs April Garratt, Hillcrest School and Community College, Simms Lane, Dudley, DY2 0PB					Nov-13		√	
Halesowen	Mr Neil Shaw, Leasowes Community College, Kent Road, Halesowen, B62 8PJ					Oct-12	√		
North Dudley	Dormant township until next elections (ex M Elwiss)								
Stourbridge	Paul Kilbride, Oldswinford Hospital School, Heath Lane, Oldswinford, Stourbridge, DY8 1QX.					Oct-14			√
<u>Secondary School Governors</u>	<u>One secondary school governor for each of the five townships up to a maximum of three</u>								
Brierley Hill	Dormant township								

<u>SCHOOL MEMBERS</u>	<u>DUDLEY SCHOOLS FORUM CONSTITUTION</u>	1 May 2011 to 30 April 2014	1 May 2012 to 30 April 2015	1 May 2013 to 30 April 2016	1 May 2014 to 30 April 2017	Date of Appointment	1 November 2012 to 31 October 2015	1 November 2013 to 31 October 2016	13/11/2014 1 November 2014 to 31 October 2017
Central Dudley	Mr Brian Patterson , Hillcrest Secondary School			√		May-13			
Halesowen	Mrs Gill Withers, Leasowes Secondary School				√	May-14			
North Dudley	Dormant township		√						
Stourbridge	Mr Jim Conway, Ridgewood High School				√	May-14			
<u>Special School Headteacher</u>	<u>One special school headteacher for all townships</u>								
All townships	Mrs J Kings, Halesbury, Feldon Lane, Halesowen, B62 9DR					Oct-14	√		
<u>Special School Governor</u>	<u>One special school governor for all townships</u>								
All townships	Vacancy from 30.5.14 (Ex I Dallaway). To remain vacant until next elections May 2015.		√			Mar-12			
<u>ACADEMY MEMBER</u>									
1 Representative	Vacancy from 01/05/14. No nominations ex Mr S Platford High Arcal School				√				
1 Representative	Mr Joe Kelleher, (Parent Governor The Earls High School)		√			Nov-12			
1 Representative	Vacancy from 1.1.2014. No nominations March 2014 elections			√					
1 Representative	Vacancy from 1.1.2014. No nominations March 2014 elections			√					
<u>Pupil Referral Units</u>									
All PRUs	Chris Derham - PRU Manager					Oct-12	√		
<u>NON SCHOOL MEMBERS</u>	<u>Representatives from Bodies Approved By Schools Forum</u>								
Unions and Professional Associations, nominated by the staff side of the Directorate Joint Consultative Committee	Mr P Nesbitt, National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers, The Kahan Centre, High Street, Kingswinford, DY6 8AP			√		May-13			
Worcester Diocesan Board of Education, nominated by the Board	Mrs Angela Hannaway , Headteacher, Halesowen CE Primary, High Street, Halesowen, B63 3BB		√			Nov-12			
Catholic Schools Commission, nominated by the Commission	Vacancy EX Mrs Brenda Beale , (ex headteacher St Josephs Primary School, Stourbridge)					May-10			
Early Years Provider Reference Group, nominated by the Group	Mrs N Jones, Hasbury Pre-school, - Hagley Road, Halesowen B62 4QD		√			Mar-14			
Dudley 16-19 FE Providers	Mr Keith Bate, Principal of Halesowen College, Whittingham Road, Halesowen, B63 3NA				√	Jan-14			

SCHOOLS FORUM MEETING SCHEDULE

2014/15 ACADEMIC YEAR

Schools Forum Meeting 2014/15	Provisional Agenda Items
16 th Dec 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UIFSM – update on capital allocated, new bids and revenue position. <i>Members to note.</i> • De- delegations update 2014/15 and 2015/16 consultation outcomes. <i>Members to vote and approve.</i> • Coseley School Monitoring update. <i>Members to note.</i> • Constitution changes for January 2015. <i>Members to approve.</i> • School balances 2013/14 and DSG assurance test update. <i>Members to note.</i>