

Schools Forum
Wednesday, 7 July 2021 at 0800

VENUE: <https://bradford.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

PLEASE NOTE

All meetings will be held in public; the agenda, decision list and minutes will be publicly available on the Council's website and Committee Secretariat, Room 112, City Hall, Bradford.

The taking of photographs, filming and sound recording of the meeting is allowed except if Councillors vote to exclude the public to discuss confidential matters covered by Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972. Recording activity should be respectful to the conduct of the meeting and behaviour that disrupts the meeting (such as oral commentary) will not be permitted. Anyone attending the meeting who wishes to record or film the meeting's proceedings is advised to liaise with the Forum Clerk Asad Shah - 01274 432280 who will provide guidance and ensure that any necessary arrangements are in place. Those present who are invited to make spoken contributions should be aware that they may be filmed or sound recorded

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The City Solicitor will report the names of alternate Members who are attending the meeting in place of appointed Members.

2. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

To receive disclosures of interests from Members on matters to be considered at the meeting. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest.

An interest must also be disclosed in the meeting when it only becomes apparent to the member during the meeting.

3. MINUTES OF 10 MARCH 2021 & MATTERS ARISING

1 - 8

That the minutes of the meeting held on 10 March 2021 be signed as a correct record.

4. MATTERS RAISED BY SCHOOLS

Members will be asked to consider any issues raised by schools.

5. STANDING ITEM - DSG SCHOOLS BLOCK GROWTH FUND ALLOCATIONS (a)

There are no allocations for consideration at this meeting.

6. SCHOOLS FORUM MEETINGS FROM SEPTEMBER 2021 (a)

Members are asked to consider how the Schools Forum should meet from the start of the new academic year – whether to continue to meet remotely or whether to return to meetings ‘in attendance’. The Schools Forum Regulations have been amended to permit the Forum to meet remotely on an on-going basis. However, where this happens, the Authority must take steps to ensure that anyone without remote access is still able to access the meeting.

Recommended –

Members are asked to give their views on how the Schools Forum should meet from the start of the new academic year.

(Andrew Redding – 01274 432678)

7. SCHOOLS FORUM MEMBERSHIP - CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR (a)

Members will be asked to approve the proposed approach to the election of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Schools Forum for the 2021/22 academic year.

(Andrew Redding – 01274 432678)

8. SCHOOLS FORUM MEMBERSHIP (a)

9 - 24

The Business Advisor (Schools) will present a report, **Document MZ**, which provides an update on the Forum’s membership and composition. This report also presents the annual update of the Forum’s Conduct of Meeting and Procedures document (Appendix 2). Forum Members are asked to consider and to approve Appendix 2.

Recommended –

(1) The Schools Forum is asked to consider and to note the information provided.

(2) The Forum is asked to approve Appendix 2 (Forum Conduct of Meetings and Procedures) for the 2021/22 academic year.

(Andrew Redding – 01274 432678)

9. DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT OUTTURN (BALANCES) 2020/21 (a) 25 - 30

The Business Advisor (Schools) will present a report, **Document NA**, which provides the initial confirmation of carry forward balances held within the Dedicated Schools Grant at the close of the 2020/21 financial year.

Recommended –

(1) The Schools Forum is asked to note the information presented.

(2) The Schools Forum is asked to approve the transfer of £0.078m to the Central Schools Services Block (CSSB) of surplus balance held within the Schools Block in order to write off the deficit balance held within the CSSB at 31 March 2021.

(Andrew Redding – 01274 432678)

10. MAINTAINED SCHOOLS' OUTTURN (REVENUE BALANCES) 2020/21 (i) 31 - 34

The Business Advisor (Schools) will present a report, **Document NB**, which provides an overview of the position of revenue balances held by maintained schools at 31 March 2021.

Recommended –

The Schools Forum is asked to note the information provided.

(Andrew Redding – 01274 432678)

11. REVIEW OF SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY FUNDED BY THE HNB (a) 35 - 40

The Strategic Commissioning Manager will present a report, **Document NC**, which asks the School Forum for its feedback on the review of, and proposed changes to, the Speech and Language Therapy provisions funded through the High Needs Block from

September 2021.

Recommended –

The Schools Forum is asked for its feedback on the proposals presented for the review of Speech and Language Therapy provisions funded through the High Needs Block from September 2021.

(Mary Ryan – 01274 432633)

12. MATTERS CONCERNING THE EARLY YEARS BLOCK (a)

41 - 46

The Business Advisor (Schools) will present a report, **Document ND**, which provides an update on matters relating to the Early Years Block. This report, in particular, includes a response to the action recorded from the 10 March Forum meeting, that a report be presented to enable the Schools Forum to analyse the impact of the COVID-19 situation on early years entitlement funding in schools in the spring term 2021, from which the Forum will be asked to further consider the request submitted by a Forum Member for the Local Authority to protect the early years entitlement funding in schools that restricted attendance.

The Forum is asked to consider the Authority's proposed response to this request, as set out in **Document ND**.

Recommended –

(1) The Schools Forum is asked to note the information presented.

(2) The Forum is asked to provide feedback on the Authority's proposed response, as set out in Document ND, to the request to protect the spring term 2021 early years entitlement funding of schools that restricted attendance.

(Andrew Redding – 01274 432678)

13. DFE ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONSULTATIONS & IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DSG (i)

The Business Advisor (Schools) will update the Schools Forum verbally on any key announcements that have been made prior to the meeting concerning the Dedicated Schools Grant and wider formula funding arrangements.

The Authority anticipated that key initial announcements (especially on the outcomes of the national SEND and Alternative Provision reviews) would have been made prior to the Forum's meeting, and in time for a

written report to be presented. Subject to these announcement being made, and their timing, it is now anticipated that a report will be presented to the Forum in September.

Recommended –

The Schools Forum is asked to note the information provided.

(Andrew Redding – 01274 432678)

14. FORMULA FUNDING DEVELOPMENT 2022/23 (i)

47 - 50

The Business Advisor (Schools) will present a report, **Document NE**, which provides an overview / introduction to local formula funding review priorities for 2022/23.

Recommended –

- (1) The Schools Forum is asked to consider and to note the information provided.**
- (2) Forum Members are invited to (remotely) attend a ‘Formula Funding Working Group’ session, on Tuesday 28 September (8am) or Wednesday 29 September (8am) or Tuesday 5 October (8am). As in previous years, these sessions will enable Forum Members to consider in more detail the impact of national formula funding decisions and to explore and guide the proposals for 2022/23 for Bradford’s Schools and High Needs Block formula funding arrangements that are anticipated will be set out for consultation in October.**

(Andrew Redding – 01274 432678)

15. SCHOOLS FORUM STANDING ITEMS (i)

Updates on the following Forum standing items will be provided verbally where these have not been covered within other agenda items:

- Schools Forum membership
- Update from the High Needs Block Steering Group
- Update from the Schools Financial Performance Group (SFPG)
- Update on School / Academy Budgets
- Update from the Early Years Working Group (EYWG)
- Update from the Formula Funding Working Group (FFWG)
- Update on Primary School Places
- Update on Academies & Free Schools

The Forum is asked to note the information provided.

(Andrew Redding – 01274 432678)

16. AOB / FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Members will be asked for any additional items of business, for consideration at a future meeting.

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Forum meeting is planned for Wednesday 15 September 2021.

Please note that the planned dates of meetings for the 2021/22 academic year in full are as follows:

- Wednesday 15 September 2021, 8am
- Wednesday 13 October 2021, 8am
- Wednesday 8 December 2021, 8am
- Wednesday 12 January 2022, 8am
- Wednesday 19 January 2022, 8am PROVISIONAL MEETING
- Wednesday 9 March 2022, 8am
- Wednesday 18 May 2022, 8am
- Wednesday 6 July 2022, 8am

*(a) Denotes an item for action (including where a formal view or recommendation is required).
(i) Denotes an item for information.*

Signposting of High Needs Information

As per the schedule presented on 14 October 2020, “Forum members are expected to access ‘outside of the Forum meetings’ wider SEND information that is presented to other groups and that is already published, including information presented to the SEND Partnership. The Authority will signpost this information (webpage links) for Forum members at the bottom of agendas.”

- SEND Partnership Board (minutes of meetings):

<https://localoffer.bradford.gov.uk/coproduction--feedback/send-strategic-partnership-board->