

Central Bedfordshire
Council
Priory House
Monks Walk
Chicksands,
Shefford SG17 5TQ

**This meeting may
be filmed.***



**Central
Bedfordshire**

please ask for Sharon Griffin
direct line 0300 300 5066
date 14 March 2017

NOTICE OF MEETING

SCHOOLS FORUM

Date & Time

Wednesday, 22 March 2017 at 9.00 a.m.

Venue at

Council Chamber, Priory House, Monks Walk, Shefford

Richard Carr
Chief Executive

To: The Chairman and Members of the SCHOOLS FORUM:

School Members:

- Ali Brabner, Cranfield Academy
- David Brandon-Bravo, Parkfields Middle School
- Pete Cohen, Oak Bank School/Academy of Central Bedfordshire
- Paul Burrett, Studham CofE Lower Schools and Pre-School
- Shirley-Anne Crosbie OBE, The Chiltern School
- Karen Hayward, Sandy Upper School
- Sue Howley MBE, Fairfield Park Lower School
- Sharon Ingham, Hadrian Academy
- Kim McCamley, Sandye Place Academy
- Alexia Moyle, Greenleas Lower School
- Leigh Davies, Willow Nursery School
- John Street, Etonbury Academy
- Stephen Tiktin, Beaudesert Lower School
- Rob Watson, Stratton Upper School

Non School Members	Ali Challis, Early Years Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) Provider Representative Martin Foster, Trade Union Representative Mary Morris, Catholic Diocese Representative Sarah Mortimer, Post 16 Education Representative
Observer:	Cllr Steven Dixon, Executive Member for Education and Skills
Current Vacancies	Academy Upper School Governor Middle School Headteacher Middle School Governor (maintained or academy) Upper School Governor Academy Lower School (Governor or Headteacher) Church of England Diocese Representative

Please note that there will be a pre-meeting starting **half an hour before** the Forum meeting to enable technical aspects of the reports to be discussed with officers before the Forum meeting begins.

***Please note that phones and other equipment may be used to film, audio record, tweet or blog from this meeting. No part of the meeting room is exempt from public filming.**

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AGENDA

1. **Apologies for absence**

To receive apologies for absence and notification of substitute Members.

2. **Chairman's Announcements and Communications**

To receive any announcements from the Chairman and any matters of communication.

3. **Schools Forum powers and responsibilities**

To note the Schools Forum powers and responsibilities summary document issued by the Education Funding Agency (copy attached).

Proposals

Item	Subject	Page Nos.
4	Dedicated Schools Grant To provide an update on the High Needs Block spend in 2016/17 and proposed spend for 2017/18 (To Follow)	
5	Date of the Next Meeting Monday 12 June 2017, 3pm, Priory House, Monks Walk, Shefford.	

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Schools forum powers and responsibilities

A summary of the powers and responsibilities of schools forums.

Function	Local authority	Schools forum	DfE role
Formula change (including redistributions)	Proposes and decides	Must be consulted [voting restrictions apply - see schools forum structure document] and informs the governing bodies of all consultations	Checks for compliance with regulations
Contracts (where the LA is entering a contract to be funded from the schools budget)	Proposes at least one month prior to invitation to tender, the terms of any proposed contract	Gives a view and informs the governing bodies of all consultations	None
Financial issues relating to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">arrangements for pupils with special educational needs, in particular the places to	Consults annually	Gives a view and informs the governing bodies of all consultations	None

Function	Local authority	Schools forum	DfE role
<p>be commissioned by the LA and schools and the arrangements for paying top-up funding;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • arrangements for use of pupil referral units and the education of children otherwise than at school, in particular the places to be commissioned by the LA and schools and the arrangements for paying top-up funding; • arrangements for early years provision; • administration arrangements for the allocation of central government grants 			
<p>Minimum funding guarantee (MFG)</p>	<p>Proposes any exclusions from MFG for application to DfE</p>	<p>Gives a view</p>	<p>Approval</p>
<p>De-delegation for mainstream schools for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • contingencies • administration of free school meals • insurance • licences/subscriptions • staff costs – supply cover • support for minority ethnic • pupils/underachieving groups • behaviour support services • library and museum services 	<p>Proposes</p>	<p>Primary and secondary school member representatives will decide for their phase. Middle schools are treated according to their deemed status</p>	<p>Will adjudicate where schools forum does not agree LA proposal</p>

Function	Local authority	Schools forum	DfE role
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School improvement 			
<p>General Duties for maintained schools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> services previously funded by the ESG general duties rate. Read the updated ‘Schools revenue funding 2017 to 2018: operational guide’ for more information. 	Proposes	Would be decided by the relevant maintained school members (primary, secondary, special and PRU).	Adjudicates where schools forum does not agree LA proposal
<p>Central spend on and the criteria for allocating funding from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> funding for significant pre-16 pupil growth, including new schools set up to meet basic need, whether maintained or academy funding for good or outstanding schools with falling rolls where growth in pupil numbers is expected within three years 	Proposes	Decides	Adjudicates where schools forum does not agree LA proposal
<p>Central spend on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> early years block provision funding to enable all schools to meet the infant class size requirement back-pay for equal pay claims remission of boarding fees at maintained schools and academies 	Proposes	Decides for each line	Adjudicates where schools forum does not agree LA proposal

Function	Local authority	Schools forum	DfE role
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> places in independent schools for non-SEN pupils services previously funded by the retained rate of the ESG admissions servicing of schools forum 			
<p>Central spend on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> capital expenditure funded from revenue – projects must have been planned and decided on prior to April 2013 so no new projects can be charged contribution to combined budgets – this is where the schools forum agreed prior to April 2013 a contribution from the schools budget to services which would otherwise be funded from other sources existing termination of employment costs (costs for specific individuals must have been approved prior to April 2013 so no new redundancy costs can be charged) prudential borrowing costs – the commitment must have been approved prior to April 2013 	<p>Proposes up to the value committed in 2016-17 and where expenditure has already been committed.</p> <p>See para 71 for Information on historic commitments. Read establishing local authority DSG baselines for more information.</p>	<p>Decides for each line</p>	<p>Adjudicates where schools forum does not agree LA proposal</p>
<p>Central spend on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> high needs block provision 	<p>Decides</p>	<p>None, but good practice to inform forum</p>	<p>None</p>

Function	Local authority	Schools forum	DfE role
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> central licences negotiated by the Secretary of State 			
Carry forward a deficit on central expenditure to the next year to be funded from the schools budget	Proposes	Decides	Adjudicates where schools forum does not agree LA proposal
Scheme of financial management changes	Proposes and consults the governing body and Head of every school	Approves (schools members only)	Adjudicates where schools forum does not agree LA proposal
Membership: length of office of members	Decides	None (but good practice would suggest that they gave a view)	None
Voting procedures	None	Determine voting procedures	None
Chair of schools forum	Facilitates	Elects (<i>may not be an elected member of the Council or officer</i>)	None

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