

## Agenda Item:

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**Meeting:** Schools Forum

**Date:** 8<sup>th</sup> March 2010

**Subject:** School Forum Budget

**Report of:** Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Children, Families and Learning

**Summary:** To update the Schools Forum on the use of the School Forum Budget for 2009/10 and recommend the Budget for 2010/11.

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Contact Officer: Dawn Hill, Borough Hall, Bedford

Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: All

Function of: Council

Reason for urgency  
(if appropriate)

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. To discuss and comment on the position statement as at Period 10.**
- 2. To propose the School Forum Budget be set at £5,000 for 2010/11, with the continued membership of the F40 group and £2,000 delegated to the Chair of the School Forum.**

### Background

1. Paragraph 13 of the Constitution and Terms of Reference, agreed by the Shadow Executive sets out the following:

‘A budget of £10,000 will be available for each financial year for costs associated with the operation of the Forum e.g. venue hire, expenses and clerking costs’. The level of the budget will be reviewed annually.

2. It was resolved at the School Forum meeting of the 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2009 to set a budget for the Schools’ Forum for 2009/10 of £5,000.
3. The School Forum Budget falls under Section 2 of The School Finance Regulations 2008. ‘Classes or descriptions of planned expenditure prescribed for the purposes of the Schools budget of a Local Education Authority which may be deducted from it to determine the Individual Schools Budget’ (top slice Direct Schools Grant - DSG) – ‘establishment and maintenance, of and consultation with, schools forums’.

### Expenditure to Date

4. It was resolved at the School Forum meeting of the 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2009 that Central Bedfordshire become a member of the F40 Group, representing the lowest funded Local

Authorities and that £2,000 from the Schools Forum budget be utilised for the annual subscription.

5. Travel expenses and refreshments £290.

**Balance Remaining £2,710**

**Recommendations:**

6. It is recommended that the School Forum budget should remain at £5,000 for the financial year 2010/11 and that £2,000 be set aside for continued membership of the F40 Group. A further £2,000 to be delegated to the Chair of the School Forum to fund the commissioning of consultancy and administration support.

**Appendices:**

None