
Meeting: Schools Forum

Date: 24th June 2013

Subject: School Forum Budget

Report of: Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Children's Services

Summary: To provide an update on the use of the School Forum Budget for 2012/13 and 2013/14.

Contact Officer: Dawn Hill, Technology House, Bedford

Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: All

Function of: Council

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. To note the School Forum position statement as at March 2013**
- 2. To note the School Forum spend to 31st May 2013**

Background

1. 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'.
2. It was agreed at the School Forum meeting of the 5th March 2012 that a budget of £3,000 will be available for costs associated with the operation of the Forum, with the continued membership of the F40 group and £2,000 delegated to the Chairman of the Schools Forum to fund the commissioning of consultancy and administration support. The level of the budget will be reviewed annually.
3. The School Forum budget was fully spent in 2011/12.

Expenditure 2012/13

4. It was resolved at the School Forum meeting of the 5th March 2012 that Central Bedfordshire would remain a member of the F40 Group, representing the lowest funded Local Authorities.

5. The following table sets out the expenditure for 2012/13 against the School Forum Budget.

	BUDGET £	SPEND £	BALANCE £
Budget Allocation 2012/13	3,000		
F40 Subscription		(1,000)	
Room Hire / Hospitality		(578)	
Travel Expenses		(172)	
Westminster Education Forum		(380)	
Total	3,000	(2,130)	870

Unspent DSG has been consolidated and carried forward in the School Specific Contingency budget.

Expenditure 2013/14

6. The School Forum budget for 2013/14 falls under Schedule 2 (classes of expenditures which may be deducted from the LA Schools Budget before determining the Individuals Schools Budget) of The School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2013 'expenditure incurred in connection with the authority's function under section 47A of the 1998 Act (establishment and maintenance of, and consultation with, schools forums). Any deductions must not exceed the amount deducted for the previous funding period.

The budget for 2013/14 has therefore been set at the 2012/13 level of £3,000

7. The following table sets out the expenditure to 31st May 2013

	BUDGET £	SPEND £	BALANCE £
Budget Allocation 2012/13	3,000		
F40 Subscription		(1,000)	
Total	3,000	(1,000)	2,000

Appendices:

None