

**Agenda Item: 13**

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**Meeting: Schools Forum**

**Date: 29 June 2009**

**Subject: Outline Forward Programme – Schools Forum**

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

**Summary:** To update the School Forum on the likely programme for the next year.

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Contact Officer: Kevin Green (01234 228744)

Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: All

Function of: Council

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**1. To discuss and comment on the programme.**

1. Set out in the table below are the likely agenda items for the Schools Forum for the next academic year. The programme will need to be flexible, to respond to national and local policy issues and the actual timings of preparatory work, including that of any sub-groups:-

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Sept 2009</b>	<b>Jan 2010</b>	<b>June 2010</b>	<b>Sub-Group?</b>
Early Years Reform–common EY formula	Y	Y	Y	Early Years Ref. Group
14-19 Reforms–Machinery of Government		Y	Poss	14-19 Partnership
14-19 Diploma Funding–Sept 2010 onwards		Y	Poss	14-19 Partnership
Surplus Balances 2008-09 (appeals)	Y			Surplus Balances Group
Surplus Balances 2009-10			Y	Surplus Balances Group
Proposed Formula Changes	Y	Poss		Technical Funding Group
National Review of DSG	Y	Poss	Poss	
2010-2011 DSG/Standards Fund allocations		Y		
Schools Contingency/School Forum Budgets	Y	Y	Y	
Special School Funding Review		Y		Special School Heads
S52 Benchmarking Statistics		Y		
Capital Programme/BSF	Poss	Y	Poss	

**Sub-Groups**

2. The Early Years Reference Group is already established as a sub-group to the Schools Forum on early years reform.

3. It is proposed that the 14-19 Partnership effectively acts as a sub-group to the Schools Forum for 14-19 funding decisions, in its strategic capacity within the authority and the Children's Trust.
4. The Surplus Balances Group is already established as a sub-group to the Schools Forum on early years reform.
5. It is proposed that a Technical Funding Sub-Group is established to look at specific areas of formula funding changes. It is further proposed that this group initially reviews the following, with any proposals to be brought to the Schools Forum:-
  - a factor where a significant number of armed forces pupils are present and have significant mobility, outside of natural transition stages
  - a review of "ghost funding" to establish whether this factor needs a tapering element
  - a review of the thresholds for deprivation funding and whether this should also include a tapering element.