



GATESHEAD SCHOOLS FORUM AGENDA

Thursday, 6 July 2023 at 2.00 pm in the Microsoft Teams

From the Chief Executive, Sheena Ramsey

Item Business

1 Apologies

2 Minutes (Pages 3 - 4)

The Forum is asked to approve as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting held on 18 May 2023

3 Maintained Schools Balances 2022/23 (Pages 5 - 8)

Carole Smith, Resources and Digital

4 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Thursday 14 September 2023 at 2.00pm

Contact: Rosalyn Patterson - email: rosalynpatterson@gateshead.gov.uk,
Tel: 0191 433 2088, Date: Wednesday 28 June 2023

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GATESHEAD METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

GATESHEAD SCHOOLS FORUM MEETING

Thursday, 18 May 2023

PRESENT:	Peter Largue (Chair)	Trade Union Representative
	Sarah Diggie	Secondary Maintained Governors
	Brendan Robson	Secondary Faith Academies
	Alison Hall	Primary Maintained Schools
	Paul Harris	Primary Maintained Schools
	Denise Kilner	Nursery Sector Representative
	Ethel Mills	PVI Sector Representative
	Michelle Richards	Special School Headteachers
	Domenic Volpe	Maintained Secondary Headteachers
	Christina Jones	River Tyne Academy
	Councillor Sheila Gallagher	Elected Member

IN ATTENDANCE:	Carole Smith	Gateshead Council
	Terence Appleby	Gateshead Council
	Melanie Maitland	Gateshead Council
	Rosalyn Patterson	Gateshead Council

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Julie Goodfellow, Andrew Fowler, Mustafaa Malik, Jacqui Ridley and Suzanne Dunn.

2 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting were approved as a correct record subject to Christina Jones' representation being amended to 'River Tyne Academy'.

3 IMPLEMENTING THE DIRECT NATIONAL FUNDING FORMULA - CONSULTATION RESPONSE

The Forum received a report on the Government's response to the consultation on implementing the Direct National Funding Formula (NFF), which was published on 26 April 2023.

It was acknowledged that in terms of impact that would not be known until further details were received. Although, it was noted that falling roles funding could be good for Gateshead.

RESOLVED - That the Schools Forum noted the report.

4 DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT Q4

The Forum received the final outturn position of the DSG for 2022/23.

The DSG budget for 2022/23 was £105.001m, spend was £103.248m meaning an underspend of £1.753m. Therefore, the DSG reserve balance has increased from £2.255m last year to £3.965m at 31 March 2023.

RESOLVED - That the Schools Forum noted the content of the report.

5 EARLY YEARS BUDGET ANNOUNCEMENTS

A report was brought to the Schools Forum on the Government's Spring Budget announcements for the early years sector.

It was reported that there were positive announcements, with an increase in funding rates for 2 year olds and for 3 and 4 year olds. There is an expected increase in the average funding for current 2, 3 and 4 year olds from September 2022. It was also announced that access to free entitlement will increase from September 2024.

It was noted that funding rates at a local level are not yet known and work will be required to implement these changes in settings within Gateshead.

RESOLVED - That Schools Forum noted the report.

6 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED - That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during discussion of the remaining item.

7 SCHOOLS IN FINANCIAL DIFFICULTY

The Forum received a report on the request for financial difficulty funding for Furrowfield Special School, following initial report to the last meeting.

Michelle Richards declared an interest in this item and left the meeting prior to the discussion. Sarah Diggle declared in interest in this item and did not take part in discussion on the decision.

RESOLVED - That Schools Forum agreed to fund the full £221,979.07 that relates to unavoidable additional costs for 2021/22 and 2022/23.

8 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 6 July 2023 at 2.00pm.

REPORT TO SCHOOLS FORUM

5 July 2023

TITLE OF REPORT: Schools Balances 2022/23

Purpose of the Report

1. To update the Schools Forum on the movement of school balances for the financial year 2022/23 and the number of schools in a deficit position at the end of the financial year.

Background

2. As part of the Council's responsibilities for the management and good financial practice of maintained schools, the balances held by each individual school, the movement (increase or decrease in balances) and the number of schools with a deficit balance for the financial year will be brought to the attention of Schools Forum to note.
3. This information is also reported to the Strategic Director, Resources and Digital and the Service Director, Education, Schools and Inclusion.

Balances

4. At the 31 March 2022 maintained schools held total revenue balances of £8.94m and 17 schools had a deficit balance amounting to £1.14m.
5. At the 31 March 2023 maintained school balances decreased by £0.67m to £8.27m.
6. 23 schools were in a deficit position at the end of 2022/23 totalling £1.4m, an increase from £1.14m. 9 of the schools in deficit are due to closed schools due to academy conversions. If the converted schools are discounted then there are 14 schools in deficit one less than 2021/22. The Council will continue to work with the schools on their deficit recovery plans.
7. These balances consist of all revenue funding streams including schools' individual budgets, government grants and any income received by the school.
8. The detail of the individual balances and the in-year movement is contained in Appendix 1.

Proposal

9. That Schools Forum notes:
 - Schools balances have decreased from £8.94m on 31 March 2021 to £8.27m at 31 March 2022, a decrease of £0.67m.
 - The number of schools with a deficit balance has increased, but this is due to small balances post conversion.

- There has been an increase in the value of the total deficits held by schools by £0.26m to £1.4m.

Recommendation

10. It is recommended that Schools Forum notes: -

- The value of maintained school balances and the in-year decrease of balances by £0.67m to the year-end value of £8.27m.
- The number of schools with a deficit balance at the end of 2022/23.
- The increase in the value of deficit balances at the end of 2022/23.

For the following reason(s):

To ensure that the year-end financial position is brought to the attention of Schools Forum.

CONTACT: Carole Smith ext. 2747

Appendix 1

School	Opening Balance 2022/23	Movement	Closing Balance 2022/23
Barley Mow Primary	-64,814	41,242	-23,572
Bede Primary	-76,302	105,280	28,977
Bensham Grove Nursery	30,783	-23,590	7,193
Bill Quay Primary	62,540	-15,066	47,474
Birtley East Primary	-89,947	-21,293	-111,240
Birtley St Josephs Infants	2,086	2,618	4,704
Birtley St Josephs Junior	1,895	2,823	4,718
Blaydon RC Primary	0	51	51
Blaydon West Primary	-292,915	-38,381	-331,296
Brandling Primary	-277,844	14,888	-262,955
Brighton Avenue Primary	17,937	-7,177	10,760
Caedmon Primary	-282,684	84,905	-197,779
Carr Hill Primary	-343,322	-79,771	-423,093
Chopwell Primary	-126,380	30,554	-95,825
Clover Hill Primary	-208,633	18,639	-189,994
Colegate Primary	161,636	47,001	208,638
Corpus Christi Primary	0	738	738
Crawcrook St Agnes Rc Primary	-105,751	99,496	-6,255
Crookhill Primary	-53,716	34,737	-18,979
Dryden	-98,631	-66,583	-165,213
Dunston Hill Primary	-173,537	85,935	-87,602
Dunston St Philip Neri RCP	2,307	-1,157	1,150
Emmaville Primary	-259,689	-62,799	-322,489
Eslington	-54,891	-36,350	-91,242
Falla Park Primary	-116,127	23,074	-93,053
Fell Dyke Primary	-36,234	-21,512	-57,746
Fellside Primary	-44,115	-31,911	-76,026
Furrowfield	52,315	127,795	180,110
Gateshead St Josephs RC	603	0	603
Gateshead St Oswalds RCP	0	-5	-5
Gateshead St Peters RCP	0	654	654
Gateshead St Wilfreds RCP	3,832	-12,665	-8,834
Gibside	-821,887	208,847	-613,039
Glynwood Primary	-108,914	124,477	15,563
Greenside Primary	-79,624	55,037	-24,587
Harlow Green Primary	-436,717	30,392	-406,325
High Spen Primary	-85,526	-23,739	-109,265
Highfield Primary	-109,919	8,177	-101,742
Highfield St Josephs RCP	-97,962	32,476	-65,486
Hilltop	138,385	-130,325	8,060
Kells Lane	-273,954	27,718	-246,236
Kelvin Grove Primary	-85,787	-351	-86,138

Kingsmeadow Comp	-2,339,524	-656,590	-2,996,113
Larkspur Primary	-30,783	39,070	8,287
Lingey House Primary	-454,643	24,371	-430,272
Lobley Hill Primary	-208,512	43,041	-165,471
Oakfield Infant	308	41,127	41,435
Oakfield Junior	-63,517	51,636	-11,881
Parkhead Primary	-103,152	20,817	-82,335
Portobello Primary	-109,099	67,414	-41,684
Ravensworth Terrace Primary	-49,880	16,121	-33,759
Roman Road Primary	-261,231	114,038	-147,193
Rowlands Gill Primary	239,150	-504	238,646
Ryton Infants	53,752	-1,400	52,352
Ryton Jnr	18,449	51,636	70,086
South Street	-4,528	-116,530	-121,058
St Aidans C of E	-192,768	-25,136	-217,903
St Albans RC	0	2	2
St Augustines RC Aided	0	1	1
St Mary&StThomasAqCathPrim	-99,398	95,975	-3,423
Swalwell	-116,919	-3,950	-120,869
The Drive	-51,273	-20,270	-71,543
Wardley	-173,675	47,247	-126,428
Washingwell	25,357	15,053	40,410
Whickham Front Street Primary	-333,826	-3,923	-337,749
Whickham Parochial	-44,933	-8,515	-53,448
Whickham St Marys R C	-49,323	48,499	-825
White Mere	329,391	99,274	428,665
Windy Nook Primary	-308,829	67,557	-241,272
Winlaton West Lane	-280,191	25,400	-254,792
Totals	-8,941,097	666,342	-8,274,755