

Schools Forum

Tuesday 12th May 2009 at 4.30pm
Pre-meeting Briefing at 4.00pm

Training Room 2

Building 2, North London Business Park,
Oakleigh Road South, London N11 1NP

Contents

Agenda	3
Membership	3
Minutes of the Schools Forum - Tuesday 10 th February 2009	3
3: Matters arising from the last meeting	3
Minute 4.2.1 Pupil Number Projections	3
Minute 4.2.1 SEN Benchmarking data	3
Minute 4.2.1 Centrally Retained DSG – clarification of items varying by 10%+	3
Minute 4.2.1 Insurance – clarification of the increase in cost and level of cover	3
Minute 5.3 London Pay Addition – options for using funding centrally.	3
Minute 5.4 JCOSS – Update on expected proportion of out of borough pupils	3
Minute 6.1 Extension to the free entitlement for nursery children	3
Minute 5.5 Contracts – list of all contracts that impact on schools	3
4: Items for agreement	3
4.1: Standards Fund 1.5 – 1-2-1 Tuition.....	3
4.2: Standards Fund 1.2 – School Lunch Grant	3
4.3: 2009/10 Schools Budget including Learning and Skills Council	3
5: Items for Information	3
5.1: 2008/9 Dedicated Schools Grant Outturn	3
5.2: 2009/10 Budget Shares	3
5.3: Building Schools for the Future	3
5.4: Update on Nursery Nurses Grade Review	3
6: Report of the Early Years Working Group	3
6.1: Pilot Funding for Phase 1 Providers.....	3
6.2: Single Funding Formula from April 2010 and Consultation with Providers.....	3

Agenda

4:00pm – Early Years Funding – a half hour briefing by Geoff Boyd (consultant) to support Schools Forum members in their understanding of matters which are the responsibility of the Forum. This does not form part of the meeting and is not minuted. Members who wish to discuss formally any issues arising from these sessions should bring them up under Any Other Business.

4:30pm – Schools Forum Meeting

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of previous meeting: 10th February 2009
3. Matters arising
4. Items for Agreement
 - 4.1. *Standards Fund 1.5 – 1-2-1 Tuition*
 - 4.2. *2009/10 budget including Learning and Skills Council funding*
 - 4.3. *School Lunch Grant*
5. Items for Information
 - 5.1. *2008/9 DSG outturn*
 - 5.2. *2009/10 Budget Shares*
 - 5.3. *Building Schools for the Future*
 - 5.4. *Update on Nursery Nurses grade review*
6. Report of the Early Years Working Group
 - 6.1. *Funding for Phase 1 early years providers from September 2009*
 - 6.2. *Single Funding Formula and Consultation with all providers from April 2010*
7. Any Other Business

Dates for future meetings:

Tue 7 th Jul 2009	4.30pm (with briefing at 4pm)
September 2009	TBA
December 2009	TBA
February 2010	TBA
Building 2, North London Business Park	

Membership

Schools Forum Membership

As 4th February 2009

Ms	Anthea	Abery	Rosh Pinah	Head	Primary	VA
Ms	Jo	Djora	Coppetts Wood	Head	Primary	Community
Ms	Jayne	Franklin	Childs Hill School	Head	Primary	Community
Mr	Kevin	Hoare	Finchley Catholic High School	Head	Secondary	VA
Ms	Kate	Webster	Queen Elizabeth Girls School	Head	Secondary	Community
Ms	Dee	Oelman	St Mary's & St John's	Head	Primary	VA
Dr	John	Marincowitz (Chair)	Queen Elizabeth's School, Barnet	Head	Secondary	Foundation
Ms	Jeanette	Adak	Monkfrith	Head	Primary	Community
Mrs	Helen	Schmitz	Cromer Road Primary School	Head	Primary	Community
Ms	Jodi	Gurney	Hampden Way	Head	Nursery	Community
Mrs	Lynda	Walker	Oak Lodge School	Head	Special	Community
Mr	Tim	Bowden	Holy Trinity	Head	Primary	VA
Mr	Gary	Tucker	Christ's College Finchley	Head	Secondary	Community

GOVERNORS

Mr	Derrick	Brown	Headteacher, Ashmole	Governor	Secondary	Foundation
Ms	Hazel	Godfrey	Governor, Broadfields	Governor	Primary	Community
Mr	Jonathan	Hewlings	Governor, East Barnet School	Governor	Secondary	Community
Mr	Ken	Huggins	Governor, The Compton	Governor	Secondary	Community
Mr	Gilbert	Knight	Governor, Oakleigh	Governor	Special	Community
Mr	Stephen	Parkin (Vice Chair)	Governor, St Mary's CE High	Governor	Secondary	VA
Ms	Elizabeth	Pearson	Governor, Holly Park & Livingstone	Governor	Primary	Community
Mr	Anthony	Vourou	Governor, St John's N11	Governor	Primary	VA

NON-SCHOOL MEMBERS

Mr	Mick	Quigley	Principal Inspector, Children's Service	Other	Stakeholder – SIPs
Mr	Alan	Homes	NASUWT	Other	Union
Ms	Angela	Murphy	Bishop Douglass	Other	14-19 Partnership
Ms	Sarah	Vipond	Middlesex University Nursery	Other	Private Early Years Providers

OBSERVERS

Ms	Angela	Trigg	London Academy	Principal	Academies
Mr	Hassan	Shami	Learning Skills Council	Other	
Cllr	Fiona	Bulmer	Cabinet Member for Children	Other	

OTHER ATTENDEES

Mr	Martin	Baker	Acting Director of Children's Service	Officer	
Ms	Linda	Parker	Joint Head of Finance – Children's Service	Officer	
Ms	Denise	Murray	Joint Head of Finance – Children's Service	Officer	
Mr	Nick	Adams	Schools Finance Services Manager, Children's Service	Officer	
Ms	Carol	Beckman	School Funding Manager – Children's Service	Officer	
Ms	Sarrosh	Malik	School Resources & Support Officer – Children's Service	Officer	Minutes
Mr	Graham	Durham	Assistant Director of Children's Service	Officer	
Mr	Geoff	Boyd	Consultant	Other	
Ms	Stav	Yiannou	Divisional Manager, BRSI	Officer	
Mr	Ieuan	Renowden	Special Projects	Officer	
Mr	Tony	Lampert	HR Manager	Officer	

Minutes of the Schools Forum - Tuesday 10th February 2009
(4.00 pm, Training Room 2, Building 2 at NLBP)

<u>Attended</u>	Members:	Dee Oelman (Head, St Mary's & St John's) Tim Bowden (Head, Holy Trinity) John Marincowitz (Head, QE Boys) Kate Webster (Head QE Girls) Jo Djora (Head, Coppetts Wood) Alan Homes (NASUWT) Anthony Vourou (Governor, St John's N11) Johnathan Hewlings (Governor, East Barnet) Stephen Parkin (Governor, St Mary's High) Elizabeth Pearson (Governor, Livingstone) Jodi Gurney (Head, Hampden Way) Ken Huggins (Governor, The Compton) Lynda Walker (Head, Oak Lodge) Helen Schmitz (Head, Cromer Road) Gilbert Knight (Governor, Oakleigh) Mick Quigley (Principal Inspector, Children's Service) Sarah Vipond (Manager, Middlesex University Nursery)
	LA Officers:	Martin Baker (Acting Director of Children's Service) Carol Beckman (School Funding Manager) Linda Parker (Strategic Finance Manager) Graham Durham (Assistant Director, Inclusion)
	Consultant:	Geoff Boyd
	Observer Status:	Hassan Shami (LSC Partnership Manager)
	Clerk:	Sarrosch Malik (School Resources & Support Officer)
<u>Not Present</u>	Members:	Derrick Brown (Governor, Ashmole) Kevin Hoare (Head, Finchley Catholic) Hazel Godfrey (Governor, Broadfields) Angela Murphy (14-19 Partnership, Head Bishop Douglas) Anthea Aberly (Head, Rosh Pinah) Gary Tucker (Head, Christ's College Finchley) Jayne Franklin (Head, Childs Hill) Jeanette Adak (Head, Monkfrith)
	Observers:	Cllr Fiona Bulmer Angela Trigg (London Academy)

1. Apologies for Absence

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Jayne Franklin, Jeanette Adak, Gary Tucker, Anthea Aberly, Derrick Brown, Hazel Godfrey, Angela Trigg.

2. Minutes of previous meeting (14th January 2009)

SP said the Minutes did not mention the formal thanks given to MB for his role as Acting Director.

JH asked whether the information requested in the December meeting about future JCOSS pupil numbers was brought back to the Schools Forum.

JM said the item on Contracts requested at the December meeting was on today's agenda.

3. Matters Arising

- 3.1 Minute 3.1 – MB has still not had a reply from JCOSS. Still waiting.
- 3.2 Minute 5.1 – MB clarified the position on the School Crossing Patrol. He said there had been some technical problems which need to be resolved.
- 3.3 Minute 6.1 – MB told the Schools Forum that Nick Jarman was to have started as Director of Children's Service last week but MB has been asked to continue in his role as Acting Director for the time being. He said they would know about the position of Director of Children's Service by the end of the week. MB will send a post meeting note to all members of the Schools Forum.
- 3.4 JH asked whether the information requested in the December meeting about future JCOSS pupil numbers was brought back to the Schools Forum.
- 3.5 JM said the item on Contracts requested at the December meeting was on today's agenda.

4. Items for Agreement

4.1 Variation in the MFG for schools with nursery classes

- 4.1.1 CB said the minimum funding guarantee protects maintained schools by ensuring that the year on year funding per pupil rises by a minimum amount. CB reminded the Schools Forum that in previous meetings there has been discussion around nursery funding changing from place to pupil led funding. In order to ensure that the place led funding is not 'locked' into the school's funding the LA are proposing that funding protection for vacant and full time nursery places is excluded from the 2008/09 baseline figure in calculation of the 2009/10 Minimum Funding Level.

The Schools Forum unanimously agreed.

Proposer – AH

Secunder – GK

4.2 2009/10 Draft Budget

- 4.2.1 LP distributed a revised paper showing a more detailed breakdown of the 2009/10 DSG and ISB. She explained that budget growth and savings have been incorporated. MB apologised for the late distribution of the paper.

MB explained that last year the pupil numbers were overestimated and the provisional Schools Budget was set higher than the final DSG allocation. The last paragraph of Item 4.2.2: Dedicated Schools Grant and Pupil Numbers says that January 2009 pupil numbers are projected to be 35 more than 2008/09. This is less than originally projected from the Autumn 2008 school census and has resulted in difficulties in balancing the budget. He reassured the Schools Forum that although they agreed a breach of the Central Expenditure Limit (CEL) in 2008/09, the LA will absorb any cost pressures in 2009/10 and the CEL will not be breached.

JH asked about the methodology of calculating pupil numbers. He asked whether it was possible to see long term projections. CB explained that in the short term the pupil number projections simply roll forward from the latest census. JH suggested that longer term projections should be done geographically, concentrating on those parts of the borough which are effected by regeneration.

KW asked whether there had been any evidence of children moving from private to state schools because of the current economic climate. MB said there was no information at the present time. JM suggested the use of historical data to see if there is any such trend. MB explained that the pattern was more easily predicted in primary than secondary schools.

CB went on to describe the 3 elements being proposed under Item 4.2.6 School Specific Contingencies:

1. The SEN contingency is part of the SEN/AEN funding, which is distributed through bids.
2. The Statement Top-Up contingency is £135k more than last year because we observed a greater demand for this last year due to greater complexity of need.
3. The School Reorganisation contingency is for in-year changes

JM told the Schools Forum that the contingency money is from the ISB but is listed under Central Expenditure. He asked whether money unspent in the contingency would be put back in the ISB. LP explained that as the contingency is in a line for centrally expenditure, when it is unspent it remains in the centrally retained fund and is rolled forward to the next financial year. She said that at present the 2008/9 contingency is expected to be fully spent. MB said that as there are budget pressures in the DSG any unspent contingency amount would be absorbed.

JM asked about the increase in Statement Top-Ups. GD explained that compared to three to four years ago, there is now a higher level of need in Barnet. He said that high levels of support in schools are expensive, but it is still cheaper than alternative options, such as a place in an independent special

school. GD has looked into the possibility of delegating more SEN money through the formula which would reduce the need for top-up funding, but found that primary heads were unwilling to consider this, although secondary heads had asked for more information.

AH was concerned that if delegated through a formula some schools may receive less money than they require based on the needs of children. If this is the case then more money would be needed in the contingency to meet the high level of needs.

MB said the LA will be conducting a major review of SEN funding as the cost of statements has risen.

GD spoke about the ring fenced grant Aiming Higher for Disabled Children to improve the quality of life for disabled children and their families. He said the LA has already paid out for 150 places over the February half term. Barnet has been allocated £1.6m over two years. He went on to say that Ofsted monitoring has coded Barnet 'green' for SEN compliance.

GD told the Schools Forum that increases in central SEN expenditure (fees to independent schools and recoupment) are due to a number of factors:

- Barnet is a net exporter of SEN – we have 127 children with statements from other boroughs in our schools but 187 of our children go out of borough – for instance JFS is very popular with 51 statements
- Barnet costs are lower than inner London authorities and therefore the gap between income and expenditure on recoupment is widening. The only way to decrease these costs is by developing more provision in Barnet, eg. JCOSS.
- A relatively small number of children with very complex needs requiring high cost placements – a single place can cost as much as £250,000 per year. Barnet parents tend to be educated and familiar with the law. There are currently 3 cases going to tribunal which could lead to costs of £400,000. 80% of cases which go to tribunal are ruled in favour of the parents.

GK said that Barnet parents are not difficult and from his own experience a simple request for support was turned down by Barnet but at tribunal the ruling was for even higher levels of support. Barnet could save money by being more reasonable in the first place.

GD went on to say that there are two cases of parents paying fees at private schools who are now asking Barnet to cover the fees. He also explained that children in care are the authority's responsibility and may have emotional or physical difficulties. Many are placed in Kent as they have well trained foster carers but the bill is rising. The Baby P case has caused a 50% increase in referrals and more children are being brought into care.

SP asked if a report on SEN could be brought to the Schools Forum. MB said that as there is a national consultation going on, the results of the consultation would be brought to the Schools Forum. MB mentioned that there is a long term proposal to develop Mapledown as part of the regeneration in Cricklewood.

JD asked whether the Schools Forum could have benchmarking information

against the Barnet. MB said it is available but it doesn't always compare like for like.

JM said that it is a difficult budget period, and taking more money out of the ISB could result in redundancies in schools.

JM asked about insurance. LP explained that some of the insurance is centrally retained and some delegated to schools. She said there has been movement from other budget lines to cover the cost. DO asked whether VA schools were covered.

JH asked for a fuller description of expenditure headings to be added in the future.

JM asked about the 'Miscellaneous line'. LP said that there is a list of eligible items. She added that the LA are not maximising the use which can be up to 0.1% of the total budget. MB said that the LA would let the Schools Forum know what the substitutions are. AV questioned the drop in Behaviour Support Services. LP said that details would be provided later. JH asked if fuller details could be provided to the Forum for lines showing more than a 10% difference.

GD told the Schools Forum that there is an increase in PRU expenditure because of the high rate of exclusion requiring more FT provision. AH asked how children will be accommodated if there is a growing need. MB explained that this would be a potential capital issue and that reducing the number of exclusions is a priority for the new Director of Children's Service.

JM asked the Forum if they wished to approve the 2009/10 budget bearing in mind that the DSG will be finalised in the summer.

There was a unanimous agreement SP – Proposer AH – Secunder

5 Items for Information

5.1 Estimated 2008/09 DSG Outturn

LP presented a report to inform the Schools Forum about the projected outturn of the centrally retained schools budget. She reminded the Schools Forum that at the September meeting the outturn projections against estimates showed an overall overspend of £253,400. At the meeting in December the position had improved and showed an overspend of £94,760 against the Section 52 budgets. Officers have updated their projections further to find an improved position of £48,160 overspend. She said any overspend has to be carried forward to be met out of next year's grant.

JM asked why there was a £67k underspend shown in the table. GD explained that there had been a change of circumstances for 3 SEN children placed in residential schools.

5.2 2009/10 Budget Shares and School Contingencies

CB told the Schools Forum that the provisional budget shares and standard funds are planned for release on 18th February and the originals on 4th March. CB said that the most significant change will be for schools with nursery classes. 2009/10 is a transition year before moving to participation funding in 2010/11.

CB explained that this change will release a sum of money which will be ring fenced for additional funding to those early years pathfinder schools and settings who go ahead with the increase to the free entitlement for 3 & 4 year olds from September 2009.

AH questioned the pay award of 2.5%. CB apologised saying that it was a typo and should read 2.3%.

JD asked which settings are pathfinders and how much would they be paid. CB explained that if they were to offer 20% more support then they would receive 20% more funding. TB said that of the 40 settings identified, some of them do not know. MB replied that Sheila Abbott would be contacting schools.

5.3 2009/10 Standards Funds

CB said that at present Barnet expects to have the same Standards Funds as in 2008/09 and they will be distributed on the same basis.

AH asked about the London Pay Addition. He said the schools have been given an allocation but some central staff would also qualify, so perhaps the LA should receive some money. MB said he would discuss this issue outside meeting.

5.4 JCOSS

5.4.1 JM said the JCOSS report showed the funding for the mainstream and resourced part of the school. He asked about the growth of funding for the resourced provision from £71k to £245k. MB explained that there is a growing pressure to provide specific provision.

LW asked if there is any admission criteria for attending JCOSS. GD replied that all children are eligible for admission, not only Jewish children. GD said that the resourced provision at JCOSS should discourage parents from sending their child out of borough.

GD said that he would want to expand Oak Lodge School. LW added that investing in existing provision in borough would be cheaper.

DO asked whether JCOSS provision was only up to Year 11. LP said that post 16 education is funded by the LSC.

JH asked how the figure of 30% for pupils from out of borough was reached. MB said that the estimates have been made in comparison to JFS.

JM said that with autism occurring in 1% of the population it is treated as a long term need, so it is a cost pressure for all LAs. AH said that this would mean that as the child goes through education there would be more cost implications for other services. MB added that the Adult Social Services receive additional funding.

5.5 Schools Forum responsibilities for contract awards

- 5.5.1 LP brought information about the FMSIS and Internal Audit contracts which are about to be awarded and fit in with the roles and responsibilities of the Forum.

JM said that their role is to assess the value for money of contracts and see if there are any concerns. JH asked LP to look for any contracts needing renewing which can be brought to the Schools Forum. SP said he was particularly interested in insurance. LP said she will find information on this.

5.6 Council Budget

LP said information was requested last meeting following MB's presentation about the non-school budget. MB said that figures had been taken from the first slide on page 7 of the minutes.

6. Report of the Early Years Working Group

- 6.1 CB told the Schools Forum that there were 2 main areas of progress. She said that Sheila Abbott has been consulting groups and settings to become pathfinders, and work has progressed on the funding formula

SV added that they were looking towards 2010/11, which would have more effect on the PVI's than the maintained. CB explained the funding issues. She also mentioned that there would be an increase in the NEF rate for the new year. In 2010/11 all schools will be funded by participation.

CB said there were still many issues to resolve. EP and JD suggested there would be no incentive to fill places after census date as they were only being funded for the number on roll on PLASC day. MB replied that the LA have to ensure there are enough places for all who want them and CB said that a school wishing to amend the maximum number of places available must first contact the local authority.

TB requested that all pathfinders are notified that they are a pathfinder and why they have been selected.

AH asked if nurseries are eligible for contingency funds. CB said that they are and perhaps PVI's could also be eligible in the future. GK said that it is public money and schools are closely controlled but how will private nurseries would be checked. CB explained that PVI's are funded termly and there are regular inspections and spot checks. GB added that Ofsted also do checks on PVI's. SV said that being from a PVI she knows that they are very highly regulated. AH asked what would happen if a PVI goes bankrupt. GB replied that it would be the same as a private school.

3: Matters arising from the last meeting

Minute 4.2.1 Pupil Number Projections

David Tobin, Head of Research and Management Information

New housing developments are taken into account by the GLA in their population projections. The population projections are then used for the school roll projections. There is a requirement on the LA to keep the GLA updated on housing developments. There is always a difference between the number of dwellings planned and the expected child yield and the houses actually built and the subsequent child yield. No work has yet been done on the impact of children moving from the private to state sector as it is very difficult to identify these pupils because they do not have Unique Pupil Numbers (UPNs). –

The School Organisation and Place Planning (SOPP) group consists of officers from across the Children's Service (finance, buildings, admissions, place planning, school improvement) and is chaired by the Director of Children's Service. The group meets regularly to review pupils numbers and school organisational issues in Barnet and in neighbouring boroughs. The SOPP group takes any decisions relating to changes in admission number in Barnet schools, although certain proposals must follow a statutory process with the decision made by the council's Cabinet.

Harrow are changing the age of transfer from 12 to 11, to fall in line with other London boroughs. We do not anticipate that this will have a significant impact on Barnet schools, either through losing more pupils to Harrow or gaining more from Harrow.

Haringey is opening a new secondary school near Alexandra Palace, but this is relatively far from the Barnet border.

Minute 4.2.1 SEN Benchmarking data

The SEN Choice Strategy, which will be consulted on soon, will contain SEN benchmarking information.

Minute 4.2.1 Centrally Retained DSG – clarification of items varying by 10%+

Schools Budget as presented to School Forum on 10th February 2009

Comparison of 2008-9 budget to 2009-10 provisional budget

Comment on Variance +/- 10%

	2008/9 Section 52 on web	2009/10 Estimate	% increase 2008/9 to 2009/10	
School-specific contingencies	1,005,430	1,000,570	-0.5%	
Provision for pupils with SEN (including assigned resources)	459,540	548,760	19.4%	Demand led budgets. The assessed needs of children are increasing thus increasing costs. Verbal information provided at the meeting on 10th Feb (see notes of meeting).
Provision for pupils with SEN, provision not included in line 1.2.1	2,587,220	2,879,460	11.3%	
Support for inclusion	294,240	300,750	2.2%	
SEN transport	400,000	400,000	0.0%	
Fees for pupils at independent special schools & abroad	6,590,220	6,790,310	3.0%	
Inter-authority recoupment	1,975,750	2,209,222	11.8%	Barnet is a net exporter of children to special schools in other local authorities. The increase in budget reflects the projected cost of current placements and estimated new placements for the financial year 2009-10.
Fees to independent schools for pupils without SEN	0	-		
Contribution to combined budgets	457,700	280,000	-38.8%	Reduction in budget to offset some of the growing pressures elsewhere within the centrally retained budget. This budget was underspent in 2008-9 to offset the DSG shortfall therefore few ongoing commitments to be funded in 2009-10 and these can be contained within the lower budget.
Central Expenditure on Educ of Under 5's (new line 2008-9)	633,000	447,040	-29.4%	2008-9 budget included funding for BEAM which in 2009-10 is to be partially funded from Sure Start- hence reduction in costs in 2009-10.
Pupil Referral Units	1,375,440	1,553,630	13.0%	Budget overspent in 2008-9 due to insufficient funding for education costs of excluded pupils. The number of exclusions is not projected to decreased and therefore the budget is increased to a more realistic level.
Behaviour Support Services	422,250	343,200	-18.7%	Reconfiguration of the support service to focus on a reduction of exclusions (see PRU above)
Education out of school	450,470	414,400	-8.0%	
Free School Meals - eligibility	3,470	3,530	1.7%	
Milk	38,070	17,070	-55.2%	Reduction of net expenditure projected (based on previous two years actuals) and increased efficiencies from the forthcoming introduction of new administration arrangements
Insurance	191,000	425,000	122.5%	The 2008-9 budget was in adequate and actual costs for 2008-9 were £424k. Budget in 2009-10 realigned to reflect projected costs. See further information re insurance in later section of matters arising.
Museum Services	0	-		
Library Services - nursery, primary and special schools	42,330	42,330	0.0%	
School admissions	328,650	383,040	16.5%	Realignment of the admissions service; E-admissions system now charged here instead of Capital Expenditure from Revenue A/C (see below)
Licences/subscriptions	2,750	2,860	4.0%	
Miscellaneous (not more than 0.1% total net SB)	36,630	225,970	516.9%	2009-10 budget funds elements of customer relations and complaints service and audit costs of FMSIS; Most of customer relations and complaints costs were previously assigned to other lines within Section 52 but now amalgamated on this line.
Servicing of schools forums	17,160	34,150	99.0%	Assessment of true cost of running and supporting the Schools Forum, including all officers' and consultants' time in preparing and attending meetings, responding to queries etc..
Capital Expenditure from Revenue A/C (CERA) (Schools)	608,430	59,040	-90.3%	Budget realignment with admissions above and correction of analysis of spend within other Section 52 lines. Some reduction in investment in centrally retained budgets for IS.
Total Centrally retained within CEL excluding U5's	17,919,750	18,360,332	2.5%	

Minute 4.2.1 Insurance – clarification of the increase in cost and level of cover

Insurance- clarification of the increase in cost and level of cover

The insurance cover funded from the centrally retained budget is for claims from third parties against the local authority relating to schools for public liability, professional indemnity and tree root trespass caused by trees on schools grounds. The premiums for public liability are calculated from a combination of claims experience and the size of the salaries spend as a percentage of the overall council salaries spend. Premiums for professional indemnity are based on salaries alone. These two insurance covers are provided by an external insurance company, the services of which are subject to a full EU tender every 3 years. Tree root insurance is a self-insured arrangement which represents a much small element of the insurance charge and is calculated based on an estimated percentage exposure of all trees within the responsibility of Barnet.

All schools are covered by this insurance.

For 2008-9 the actual insurance charge was £424,773. The original budget of £191,000 was an under-estimation of the actual costs and following the realignment of insurance budgets the budget of £425,000 in 2009-10 is set at a realistic level.

Corporate Contracts - Impacting on or Accessible to Schools

Addendum Minute 5.5

Contract	Consortia	Value	Supplier	Start Date	Expiry Date	Duration
Insurance Contracts						
Fire and Terrorism		£402,000	Zurich Municipal	01-Oct-09	30-Sep-10	1 year
Balance of Perils		£135,000	Zurich Municipal	01-Oct-09	30-Sep-10	1 year
Personal Accident		£29,000	Zurich Municipal	01-Oct-09	30-Sep-10	1 year
Third Party Hirers		£1,500 deposit (arranged on a declaration basis)	Zurich Municipal	01-Oct-09	30-Sep-10	1 year
Employers Liability		£128,000	AIG UK Ltd	01-Oct-09	30-Sep-10	1 year + 2yr extension
Public Liability and Professional Negligence		£344,000	AIG UK Ltd	01-Oct-09	30-Sep-10	1 year + 3yr extension
Motor Minibus		£33,500	AIG UK Ltd	01-Oct-09	30-Sep-10	1 year + 3yr extension

Minute 5.3 London Pay Addition – options for using funding centrally.

Carol Beckman, Schools Funding Manager

The London Pay Addition Grant is a revenue grant ring fenced for schools like the DSG, SDG (school element), SSG and SSG(P). It was introduced for the 2008-11 funding cycle, but we would expect it to be absorbed into the DSG from 2011/12. DCSF guidance is as follows:

The grant must be used in support of the purposes of the Schools Budget, but is not itself part of the Schools Budget. The grant does not feature in the calculation of the Central Expenditure Limit, but may be used to support increases in pay for centrally employed teachers as a result of the STRB recommendations on London pay.

In February 2008 the Schools Forum agreed that the grant should be distributed by pupil numbers to all schools and PRUs – essentially a top-up to each school's AWPU funding. In 2008/9 the total grant was £371,000 with allocations ranging from £336 (Hampden Way) to

£10,823 (Mill Hill High). The council absorbed the additional cost of centrally employed teachers other than at PRUs.

The same method has been used for distributing the grant (£778,000) in 2009/10 at a rate of £17 per pupil.

Minute 5.4 JCROSS – Update on expected proportion of out of borough pupils

Carol Beckman, Schools Funding Manager

JCROSS has informed us that no further market research has been done on potential admissions to JCROSS following the initial expressions of interest. Their estimate of 30% of children coming from non-Barnet primary schools was based on the fact that two of the expected feeder schools (Clore Shalom and Clore Tikva) are outside Barnet. JCROSS have agreed to update the local authority as more information becomes available.

Minute 6.1 Extension to the free entitlement for nursery children

Sheila Abbott, Consultant to BRSI

Letters were sent to all early years providers on 16 March 2009 informing them whether they are in Phase 1 (implementing the extension to 15 hours with increased flexibility from September 2009) or Phase 2 (implementing in 2010/11). A leaflet for parents has been printed and Phase 1 providers have received an information pack including flexibility options to discuss with governors and staff, a model letter to parents with questionnaire and frequently asked questions. Follow up meetings with all Phase 1 providers have been scheduled for late May. The 42 Phase 1 providers consist of 15 PVI's, 22 schools and 5 children's centres.

Minute 5.5 Contracts – list of all contracts that impact on schools

Corporate Contracts - Impacting on or Accessible to Schools

Contract	Consortia	Value	Supplier	Start Date	Expiry Date	Duration
Utility Contracts						
Gas						
Under 25,000 Therm	LASER	£1,990,602	Scottish & Southern Energy	01-Apr-08	31-Mar-10	2 Years
Over 25,000 Therm	LASER	£1,085,552	E-on Energy	01-Dec-07	30-Nov-09	2 Year
Electricity						
Over 100 kW	LASER	£650,000	EDF energy EON	01-Nov-07	31-Oct-09	2 Year
Over 100 kW	LASER	£1,281,000	EDF energy EON	01-Nov-07	31-Oct-09	2 Year
Under 100kw	LASER	£729,000	Scottish and Southern Electricity	01-Oct-08	30-Sep-09	1 year
Fuel						
Heating Oil	OGC	£250,000	ESSO PETROLEUM CO LTD	01-Jan-07	31-Dec-09	2 Years
Corporate Building Cleaning Contract		£596,400-£671,340	Contract A, C & D – Turners Cleaning Support Services	04-Apr-08	03-Apr-11	3 yrs + option to extend
		£7,900 PA	Contract B – Churchill Contract Services			
Cleaning Materials	LCSG	£50,000 PA	Greenham Trading	01-Jun-05	30-May-09	4 years
Supply Contracts						
Photocopier Equipment	OGC	£140,000 PA	DANWOOD GROUP	01-Sep-98	On-going	
Computer Consumables	LCSG	£150K PA	Office Depot	01-Apr-06	31-Aug-09	3 years 6 months
Stationery	LCSG	£200K PA	Office Depot	01-Sep-05	31-Aug-09	4 Years
Photocopy paper	LCSG	£80K pa	Dixon & Roe & Office Depot	01-Sep-05	31-Aug-09	4 Years
Clinical Waste Disposal	BARNET QUOTATION	£11 K pa	General Business Holdings	01-Dec-08	30-Nov-09	1 year
Office Furniture	LCSG	£150KPA	Unique Office Solutions Office Depot ROC Wagstaff Eurotek	01-Jun-07 LCSG	31-May-11	4 Years
Frozen Foods		£550,000	Hopwells	28-Jul-08	28-Jul-10	1 year + option to extend
Groceries		£650,000	Danish Bacon Company	28-Jul-08	28-Jul-10	1 year + option to extend
Fruit and Vegetables		£450,000	H & B Hawkes	01-Jan-09	31-Dec-12	1 year + option to extend
Sandwiches		£180,000	Raynor's	23-Feb-09	22-Feb-11	2 year
Frozen Foods		£50,000	Brakes			
Cleaning Materials and Light Equipment		£40,000	ESPO			
Jewish Supervision		£25,000	Kedassia			
Kitchen Counters		£45,000	Moffatts			
Dishwashing Chemicals		£12,000	Trichem			
Kosher Meat		£20,000	Ecksteins			
Catering Consumables		£50,000	Bunzl			
Kitchen Equipment		£35,000	Hobart			
Coffee		£15,000	Eurobrand Foods			
Halal Foods		£30,000	RAJ Foods			
Service Contracts						
Translation & Interpretation Service		£160,000 PA (estimated)	Prime Productions Limited	01-Apr-05	30-Sep-09	3 Years + 18 month extension
Transportation Services - Incl provision of taxis, mini buses etc		£4,000,000 PA (estimated)	Go Plant Ltd	04-Oct-08	03-Oct-18	10 years + 5 yrs extension
SEN Transport		£4,315,000 PA (estimated)	See below:	2004	2011	7 years
			Star Cars Ltd			
			H&B Travel			
			Lady Fare			
			Cavendish Cars			
			Brent Couriers			
			Metro Cars			
			Elite Broadway Cars			
Internal audit of Schools		£233,000	Enpeyz	01-Apr-09	31-Mar-12	3 years + 2yr extension
Assessment of schools' FMSiS self assessments		£180,000	Enpeyz	01-Apr-09	31-Mar-12	3 years + 2yr extension
Happy at home, Motorskills and BHSS (Barnet Healthy Schools)		£36,800	JKN Training	01-Apr-09	01-Mar-10	1 year
BHSS (Barnet Healthy Schools), Staff EHW, Happy at Home		£31,220	Vitality consultancy	01-Apr-09	01-Mar-10	1 year
BHSS (Barnet Healthy Schools), Happy at Home		£10,080	AHS consultancy Ltd	01-Apr-09	01-Mar-10	1 year

4: Items for agreement

4.1: Standards Fund 1.5 – 1-2-1 Tuition	
Author	Ieuan Renowden
Position	Interim Project Manager, Children's Service
Date	12 May 2009

Purpose

To provide one to one support for pupils who are at risk of not adding two levels progress in either English or mathematics.

An initial roll-out started in the Spring term 2009 for identified pupils in Year 5 and 6.

From September 2009 the scheme will extend to Key Stage Two, Key Stage Three and Key Stage Four in National Challenge Schools.

The ring-fenced grant of £407 per pupil includes :

- 10 hours one to one support (allows tutors to be paid £28 per hour)
- 2 hours planning, training and teacher liaison time
- £4 per hour allocation for employer on-costs
- £23 per pupil for any additional costs incurred by schools for administration time, or for teacher liaison

Allocation

£ 685,795 has been allocated to Barnet to devolve to its schools for the academic year 2009 - 2010

The DCSF has identified the number of pupils in each phase to be supported and the amount of funding to be devolved to each phase.

The funding is sufficient to provide tutors for :

- 954 Key Stage Two pupils (£ 388,278)
- 690 Key Stage Three pupils (£ 280,830)
- 41 Key Stage Four pupils (£ 16,687)

The funding will be allocated to schools on a formula basis, with the exception of Key Stage Four which has to be allocated to National Challenge Schools. Currently Whitefield is Barnet's only National Challenge School.

The following option is proposed for primary and secondary with schools in both phases receiving a basic entitlement, plus an allocation based on the average number of pupils from 2006 – 2008 not making either two levels progress in primary or three levels in secondary.

Primary: £2442 + £407 x funded pupils.

Secondary: £2035 + £407 x funded pupils

School	DFEE	Average no. of pupils not making 2 level progress 06-08	Allocation - no. of pupils * £407	Basic Entitlement - 6 * £407	Total Grant	Total no. of pupils supported
Parkfield	2000	9	3663	2442	6105	15
Barnfield	2002	6	2442	2442	4884	12
Bell Lane	2003	9	3663	2442	6105	15
Brookland Junior	2007	7	2849	2442	5291	13
Brunswick Park	2009	5	2035	2442	4477	11
Childs Hill	2010	11	4477	2442	6919	17
Church Hill	2011	6	2442	2442	4884	12
Colindale	2014	7	2849	2442	5291	13
Coppetts Wood	2015	4	1628	2442	4070	10
Courtland	2016	2	814	2442	3256	8
Cromer Road	2017	10	4070	2442	6512	16
Deansbrook Junior	2018	14	5698	2442	8140	20
Edgware Junior	2022	14	5698	2442	8140	20
Fairway	2024	7	2849	2442	5291	13
Foulds	2025	7	2849	2442	5291	13
Frith Manor	2026	9	3663	2442	6105	15
Garden Suburb Junior	2027	6	2442	2442	4884	12
Goldbeaters	2029	5	2035	2442	4477	11
Hollickwood	2031	4	1628	2442	4070	10
Holly Park	2032	8	3256	2442	5698	14
Livingstone	2036	5	2035	2442	4477	11
Manorside	2037	6	2442	2442	4884	12
Monkfrith	2042	3	1221	2442	3663	9
Moss Hall Junior	2043	10	4070	2442	6512	16
Northside	2045	3	1221	2442	3663	9
Summerside	2052	9	3663	2442	6105	15
Woodridge	2054	3	1221	2442	3663	9
Tudor	2055	6	2442	2442	4884	12
Underhill Junior	2056	14	5698	2442	8140	20
Whitings Hill	2060	7	2849	2442	5291	13
Barnet Hill	2064	5	2035	2442	4477	11
Chalgrove	2067	3	1221	2442	3663	9
Sunnyfields	2070	5	2035	2442	4477	11
Queenswell Junior	2072	16	6512	2442	8954	22
Danegrove	2073	8	3256	2442	5698	14
The Hyde	2074	10	4070	2442	6512	16
Wessex Gardens	2076	7	2849	2442	5291	13
The Orion	2077	6	2442	2442	4884	12
Pardes House	2078	4	1628	2442	4070	10
Beis Yaakov	2079	4	1628	2442	4070	10
All Saints' CE (NW2)	3300	5	2035	2442	4477	11
Christ Church CE	3302	3	1221	2442	3663	9
Holy Trinity CE	3304	6	2442	2442	4884	12
Monken Hadley CE	3305	2	814	2442	3256	8
St John's CE (N11)	3307	2	814	2442	3256	8
St John's CE (N20)	3309	4	1628	2442	4070	10
St Mary's CE (N3)	3311	5	2035	2442	4477	11
St Mary's CE (EN4)	3312	5	2035	2442	4477	11
St Paul's CE (N11)	3313	6	2442	2442	4884	12
St Paul's CE (NW7)	3314	4	1628	2442	4070	10
St Andrew's CE	3315	4	1628	2442	4070	10
Trent CE	3316	4	1628	2442	4070	10
All Saints' CE (N20)	3317	5	2035	2442	4477	11
Our Lady of Lourdes RC	3501	5	2035	2442	4477	11
St Agnes' RC	3502	9	3663	2442	6105	15
St Catherine's RC	3504	4	1628	2442	4070	10
St Vincent's RC	3506	4	1628	2442	4070	10
St Theresa's RC	3507	3	1221	2442	3663	9
St Joseph's RC Junior	3509	4	1628	2442	4070	10
Sacred Heart RC	3510	5	2035	2442	4477	11
Blessed Dominic RC	3511	6	2442	2442	4884	12
Rosh Pinah	3512	8	3256	2442	5698	14
Menorah Primary	3513	6	2442	2442	4884	12
The Annunciation RC Junior	3514	6	2442	2442	4884	12
Independent Jewish Day	3515	4	1628	2442	4070	10
Hasmonean Primary	3516	3	1221	2442	3663	9
Woodcroft	3518	11	4477	2442	6919	17
Broadfields	3519	16	6512	2442	8954	22
Akiva	3520	2	814	2442	3256	8
St Mary's and St John's CE	3521	4	1628	2442	4070	10
Claremont	3522	10	4070	2442	6512	16
Martin Primary	3523	9	3663	2442	6105	15
Dollis Junior	5200	29	11803	2442	14245	35
Osidge	5201	6	2442	2442	4884	12
Mathilda Marks Kennedy	5948	2	814	2442	3256	8
Menorah Foundation	5949	3	1221	2442	3663	9
		498	202686	185592	388278	954

All pupil numbers based on 2008 eligible pupils	Average no. of pupils not making 3 level progress in English and maths - 2006-08	No. of pupils - 46% of school average	Allocation - no. of pupils @ £407	Basic entitlement: 5 pupils @ £407 = £2035	Total no. of pupils funded	Total Grant	National Challenge Grant
Ashmole School	61	28	11396	2035	33	13431	
Bishop Douglass School Finchley	89	41	16687	2035	46	18722	
Christ's College Finchley	52	24	9768	2035	29	11803	
Copthall School	76	35	14245	2035	40	16280	
East Barnet School	95	44	17908	2035	49	19943	
Finchley Catholic High School	62	29	11803	2035	34	13838	
Friern Barnet School	99	46	18722	2035	51	20757	
Hasmonean High School	30	14	5698	2035	19	7733	
Hendon School	86	40	16280	2035	45	18315	
Mill Hill County High School	73	34	13838	2035	39	15873	
Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School	69	32	13024	2035	37	15059	
Queen Elizabeth's School, Barnet	6	3	1221	2035	8	3256	
St James' Catholic High School	96	44	17908	2035	49	19943	
St Mary's CofE High School	98	45	18315	2035	50	20350	
St Michael's Catholic Grammar School	4	2	814	2035	7	2849	
The Compton School	66	31	12617	2035	36	14652	
The Henrietta Barnett School	1	1	407	2035	6	2442	
The Ravenscroft School a Technology College	126	58	23606	2035	63	25641	
Whitefield School	94	44	17908	2035	49	19943	16687
TOTAL	1284	595	242165	38665	690	280830	16687

4.2: Standards Fund 1.2 – School Lunch Grant

Author	Teresa Goodall
Position	Service Manager – Catering Services
Date	12 May 2009

The School Lunch Grant of £488,946 is to be allocated to schools in line with the decisions taken by the Schools Forum at their meeting in May last year, That is:

- Food and Labour costs calculated on the basis of:
 - A lump sum of £1000 per primary and secondary school, £2000 per special school and £500 per PRU. Exceptions are those schools not providing meals and nursery schools
 - The remainder (approximately £215,000) to be distributed to all schools based on pupil numbers. Exceptions are those schools not providing meals and nursery schools
- Equipment: £130,000 distributed on pupil numbers. Exceptions are those schools not providing meals, nursery schools and schools with new kitchens.
- Advice on nutritional content of meals: £30,000 to be distributed to all schools based on pupil numbers. Exceptions are those schools not providing meals and nursery schools.

For schools buying into the in-house service, however, approval is being sought to transfer the food and labour element of the funding directly to the in-house provider. This request came from a number of schools and will save money on invoicing costs.

Schools making their own arrangements will continue to receive all their funding direct.

Recommendation: The Schools Forum agrees that for schools buying into the Barnet Catering Service the food and labour element of the School Lunch Grant allocations be transferred directly to the catering service.

4.3: 2009/10 Schools Budget including Learning and Skills Council	
Author	Linda Parker
Position	Joint Head of Strategic Finance (Children's Service)
Date	12 May 2009

The draft 2009-10 Schools Budget was agreed at the last meeting in February. This report explains the changes to the Schools Budget since that meeting. The changes are a result of:

- the changes in the LSC funding for 16+
- the pupil numbers
- minor amendments to the Section 52 analysis
- Projected brought forward centrally retained budget under/overspend from 2008-9.

It should be noted that despite these changes the central expenditure limit (CEL) is not breached.

Learning and Skills Council (LSC) Funding

Provisional 6th form funding allocations for 2009-10 academic year were sent to schools in January 2009. At the end of February 2009 the LSC provided each school with their revised allocations marked as 'Final'. The schools were asked to contact the LSC by 11th March if they had any queries on the allocations and the LSC undertook to resolve any queries by the 13th March after which the allocations would be finalised and a final financial year amount would be provided. In prior years the February allocations have not changed by any significant amount and schools therefore set their school budgets using these figures (these figures were also incorporated in 2009-10 Section 52 statement which had to be returned to the DCSF by 31st March 2009).

On the 31st March 2009 the LSC wrote to all schools with their final allocations. The figures were also sent to the Acting Director of Children's Service. Across all schools the funding allocation was reduced by **£1,022,293**, on average this is a reduction of £60,135 per school (the lowest reduction being £20,536 at Ravenscroft and the largest £106,386 at Mill Hill County).

An accompanying letter from the LSC explains that demand for Post 16 places is increasing above previous forecast. Whilst there was an increase in the national funding for 16-18 participation this proved insufficient to fund the actual increase. The LSC say that they are required to fund 390,000 places in School Sixth Forms, 18,000 more than anticipated.

The LSC used a very crude method to make these reductions in their funding allocations to schools throughout the country

- Firstly they reduced the 2009-10 academic year learner numbers by 3.6% nationally. For Barnet the reduction is 157 (3.7%). This accounts for £659,925 of the £1,022,293 reduction.
- Secondly in calculating the financial year allocations they have used 33.33% (4/12ths of the 2008-9 academic year) but only **65%** (rather than 66.67%) of the 2009-10 academic year. This accounts for £362,368 of the £1,022,293 reduction.

Following the announcement of the reduced funding there was significant press coverage and the LSC made attempts to obtain additional resources from the government. In the Budget announcements in April the LSC reported that £655m additional funding would be made available to be spent over the next two years on 16-18 learner allocations. Schools and colleges were given revised allocations for their academic year 2009-10 last week. Funding for learner numbers has largely been restored to the levels agreed at the beginning of March. The LSC have yet to confirm the calculation of funding for the financial year 2009-10, however, it would appear that the split of funding for a financial year remains at 65% rather than 66.67%. Officers from Barnet calculate that the 6th form funding has increased by £643,426 but this is still £378,867 less than estimated at the beginning of March.

The LSC also provides funding for SEN (£2,719,209) and Teachers Pay Grant (£762,906). The final allocations have also been incorporated into the revised schools budget.

Pupil Numbers

The DCSF are due to confirm the final pupil numbers for each local authority for the calculation of the DSG on the 12th May. The figure submitted by Barnet to the DCSF is 42,803 (the DCSF may vary this should they identify any double counts of pupils with other local authorities and deem that Barnet cannot claim these pupils). The pupil number used in the budget reported to the Schools Forum in February was 42,802. Subject to the DCSF publishing the finalised pupil numbers on the 12th May, the finalised pupil numbers for Barnet will be reported at the meeting. As the estimated pupil number used in February is so close to Barnet's final submission to DCSF it is not proposed to alter the pupil numbers in the calculation of the Schools Budget until the final figures are confirmed.

Other variances to Section 52

In previous years the budget for 'Salary Safeguarding' costs in schools (supply cover costs for staff undertaking specific duties such as trade union activities, jury service etc) was funded from the schools contingency budget. However there is now a specific line within the Section 52 for this activity, staffing costs and the budget, £100,000 has been moved to this line.

Projected DSG Outturn 2008-9

In February the Schools Forum were informed that the projected outturn in the centrally retained budget was an overspend of £48,000. In setting the Schools Budget for 2009-10 the projected brought forward overspend from 2008-9 has therefore been removed. Once the final outturn is confirmed, options for using any underspend from 2008-9 will then be considered and brought to a future meeting.

The Revised Schools Budget

The chart attached shows the draft Section 52 submitted to the DCSF on the 31st March 2009 and the revised Schools Budget incorporating the changes outlined above. A revised Section 52 will be submitted incorporating these changes once the final pupil numbers are published by the DCSF.

		Section 52 submitted 31st March 2009 £	Revised S52 for Schools Forum 12th May 2009 £	Variation £	Comment
1	SCHOOLS BUDGET				
1.0.1	Individual Schools Budget	203,952,382	204,336,422	384,040	LSC Changes; Addition of the Teachers Pay Grant; Reduction in 6th Form allocation
1.0.9	Expenditure for Education of Children under 5s in Private/voluntary/independent settings	4,504,388	4,504,388	0	
1.1.1	Support for schools in financial difficulty	0	0	0	
1.1.2	School-specific contingencies	1,100,570	1,000,570	-100,000	Salary Safeguarding budget moved to line 1.5.7
1.2.1	Provision for pupils with SEN (including assigned resources)	548,760	548,760	0	
1.2.2	Provision for pupils with SEN, provision not included in line 1.2.1	2,879,461	2,879,461	0	
1.2.3	Support for inclusion	300,750	300,750	0	
1.2.4	Fees for pupils at independent special schools & abroad	6,790,300	6,825,739	35,439	LSC SEN grant change
1.2.5	SEN transport	400,000	400,000	0	
1.2.6	Fees to independent schools for pupils without SEN	0	0	0	
1.2.7	Inter-authority recoupment	2,209,230	2,209,230	0	
1.2.8	Contribution to combined budgets	280,000	280,000	0	
1.3.1	Pupil Referral Units	1,553,630	1,553,630	0	
1.3.2	Behaviour Support Services	343,198	343,198	0	
1.3.3	Education out of school	414,400	414,400	0	
1.3.5	Central expenditure on education of children under 5s	495,040	495,040	0	
1.4.2	Free school meals - eligibility	3,533	3,533	0	
1.4.3	Milk	17,070	17,070	0	
1.5.1	Insurance	425,000	425,000	0	
1.5.2	Museum and Library Services	42,330	42,330	0	
1.5.3	School admissions	383,037	383,037	0	
1.5.4	Licences/subscriptions	2,858	2,858	0	
1.5.5	Miscellaneous (not more than 0.1% total of net SB)	225,965	225,965	0	
1.5.6	Servicing of schools forums	34,150	34,150	0	
1.5.7	Staff costs - supply cover (not sickness)	0	100,000	100,000	Salary Safeguarding budget moved from line 1.1.2
1.6.1	School Development Grant - Non-Devolved	0	0	0	
1.6.2	Other Standards Fund Allocation - Non-Devolved	84,780	84,780	0	
1.7.1	Capital Expenditure from Revenue (CERA) (Schools)	59,040	59,040	0	
1.8.1	TOTAL SCHOOLS BUDGET	227,049,872	227,469,351	419,479	

Percentage Increase in ISB and PVI
Percentage Increase in Schools Budget

3.6%
3.6%

Has the Central Expenditure Limit been breached?

No

Recommendation: The Schools Forum is asked to approve the revised 2009-10 Schools Budget.

5: Items for Information

5.1: 2008/9 Dedicated Schools Grant Outturn	
Author	Linda Parker
Position	Joint Head of Strategic Finance (Children's Service)
Date	12th May 2009

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to inform Schools Forum about the provisional outturn of the centrally retained schools budget. The accounts are due to be closed by the 12th May and

whilst there may be some very late entries the in the remaining days between writing this report and the final closing date, the final outturn is not likely to vary significantly from the provisional figures presented to Council Members at the end of April.

2008-9 Provisional Outturn

At the Schools' Forum in February 2009, it was reported that officers of the Council projected an underspend of £131,840 but when the shortfall in DSG is added this becomes an overspend of £48,160.

The provisional outturn is now showing an underspend of £217,000 (after the shortfall in grant is added). Figures will be presented to the Forum on Tuesday showing the variances against the Section 52 budget lines.

The main variance from the figures presented in February is an under spend of £189,000 on schools contingency. This is primarily due to the lower than previously projected costs for SEN statement top-ups.

In accordance with the Dedicated Schools Grant conditions any over or under spend in the centrally retained budgets must be carried forward to the following year. The provisional outturn indicates there will be a carried forward underspend. Once this is finalised, consideration will need to be given to the use of the rolled forward underspend following a review of budget pressures within the Schools Budget.

Recommendation : The Forum notes the report.

Previous reports:

- Report to Schools Forum 23rd September 2008 Centrally Retained Budget;
- 9th December 2008 Dedicated Schools Grant 2008-9- Centrally Retained Budget Monitoring;
- 10th February 2009 Estimated 2008-9 DSG Outturn

5.2: 2009/10 Budget Shares	
Author	Carol Beckman
Position	Schools Funding Manager
Date	12 May 2009

Schools received their original budget share and standards funds allocations for 2009/10 on 4th March and indicative allocations for 2010/11 three weeks later. In 2009/10, schools received a 3.5% increase in funding and on average 3.9% more per pupil. The number of pupils in secondary schools is lower this year, partly because the Wren Academy has opened, whilst the numbers funded in nursery schools and classes are also lower as the formula moves to funding by headcount rather than place. We are currently expecting a similar picture in 2010/11

Use of the Schools Budget 2008-11

19/03/2009 16:11

	2008/9	2009/10		2010/11	
	Original	Original	% change	Indicative	% change
	£	£		£	
Distribution to Schools					
Nursery Schools	1,680,557	1,640,709	-2.4%	1,675,164	2.1%
Funded Pupils	274	255	-6.8%	237	-7.3%
£ per pupil	6,133	6,428	4.8%	7,083	10.2%
% of total funding	0.85%	0.80%		0.79%	
Primary Schools	95,071,897	98,466,246	3.6%	101,809,335	3.4%
Funded Pupils	25,574	25,630	0.2%	25,503	-0.5%
£ per pupil	3,718	3,842	3.3%	3,992	3.9%
% of total funding	48.25%	48.16%		47.96%	
Secondary Schools (pre 16)	72,558,731	74,254,820	2.3%	77,669,907	4.6%
Pre-16 Pupils	15,693	15,497	-1.2%	15,510	0.1%
£ per pupil	4,624	4,792	3.6%	5,008	4.5%
% of total funding	36.82%	36.32%		36.59%	
Secondary Schools (post 16)	20,815,839	22,232,382	6.8%	22,588,350	1.6%
% of total funding	10.56%	10.87%		10.64%	
Special Schools	6,349,289	6,731,225	6.0%	6,998,130	4.0%
Funded Places	363	371	2.2%	371	0.0%
£ per pupil	17,491	18,143	3.7%	18,863	4.0%
% of total funding	3.22%	3.29%			
All Schools	196,476,313	203,325,383	3.5%	210,740,885	3.6%
Funded Pupils/Places	41,903	41,753	-0.4%	41,620	-0.3%
£ per pupil	4,689	4,870	3.9%	5,063	4.0%
% of total funding	100%	99%		99%	
Other					
Held for extension to Free Ent.	-	400,000		800,000	100%
Held for salary safeguarding	-	100,000		100,000	0%
ISB for academies	579,125	627,000		638,485	
Total ISB	197,055,438	204,452,383		212,279,370	

5.3: Building Schools for the Future

Presentation	Val White
Position	Assistant Director, Children's Service
Date	12 May 2009

Supporting papers for this presentation will be distributed at the meeting.

5.4: Update on Nursery Nurses Grade Review

Author	Tony Lampert
Position	HR Manager
Date	12 May 2009

As part of the 2003 national workforce remodelling agenda, which saw certain responsibilities previously undertaken by teachers move to support staff, local authorities were encouraged to review the job descriptions and grades of a range of generic groups of schools' support staff.

To date, Teaching Assistants, Learning Mentors and Exam Invigilators have all been reviewed. Nursery Nurses are in the process of being reviewed.

Barnet schools employ approximately 150 Nursery Nurses. They all work term time only but are all paid for 52 weeks. The majority are paid on a grade range of spinal column points (scp) 17-20.

A critical stage has been reached in the negotiations with the Unions. The evaluated spinal column point range has been agreed as 25-28. The issue still in negotiation is how this grade is to be applied. Management believes that the Nursery Nurses should have their new salary pro-rated to reflect their term time working arrangements. Trade Unions are pressing that Nursery Nurses receive their new salary on a 52 week basis to reflect their existing contractual position.

The pay comparisons are set out in the table below (Please note these figures exclude oncosts): Column 1 is the Nursery Nurse existing pay range, column 2 is the term time pro-rated pay (management's position) and the column 3 is the pay based on 52 weeks (trade union position).

Existing grade		New grade range		
	Column 1		Column 2	Column 3
scp	52 wks pay	scp	Management	Unions
17	18399	25	19204	23046
18	18729	26	19777	23733
19	19368	27	20388	24465
20	20004	28	21003	25203

Recent developments indicate that agreement could be reached around a compromise position. The issue of backdating will form part of these discussions. The final agreement is expected to lie between Columns 2 and 3.

Any agreement will be expected to be implemented by Community schools and recommended to Voluntary Aided and Foundations schools.

Schools will be responsible for meeting any additional costs. We understand that schools have set their 2009-10 budgets, however the risk is that actual pay grades agreed may exceed the levels provided for within those budgets. It is important that the range of costs (illustrated in the table above) be fully understood and potential scope of financial liability applicable to each individual school be calculated. We recommend without prejudice that a prudent financial approach to the risk be adopted, budgets reviewed and the need for an adequate level of contingency be considered, to enable schools to meet the liability when negotiations are finalised.

Schools will be kept fully informed of progress and developments.

Recommendation: Schools Forum members to note

6: Report of the Early Years Working Group	
Author	Carol Beckman
Position	Schools Funding Manager
Date	12th May 2009

The Early Years Working Group has been working for a year on the extension to the free entitlement for 3 & 4 year olds from 12½ to 15 hours per week with increased flexibility. The group has representatives from all types of settings – maintained and private and the work has included:

- Shared understanding of issues facing different types of provision
- Discussion of costs in different settings
- Lessons learned from pathfinder authorities
- DCSF guidance
- Options for increasing the amount of provision for each child
- Options for increased flexibility
- Fees and charging
- Elements of a single funding formula
- Maintaining quality and effective monitoring of EYFS

6.1: Pilot Funding for Phase 1 Providers

From September 2009, the DCSF requires that the 25% most deprived 3 & 4 year olds will have access to an additional 20% (2½hrs) of early education on a flexible basis. In order to meet this in Barnet, 42 schools and settings have been chosen to extend their offer and flexibility from next term. The list comprises 15 private settings, 5 children's centres and 22 school nursery classes which serve children from the most deprived areas. Every Barnet school and setting currently providing the free entitlement has been contacted so that they know whether they are in Phase 1 or will not have to comply until September 2010.

Sheila Abbott and her team are working with the Phase 1 settings (most of which are in the west of the borough) to help them decide on issues such as what their offer to parents will be; what changes they will need to make to staff contracts; and what physical changes will need to be made to premises.

All Phase 1s will require additional funding and in 2009/10 £880,000 is available, comprised of a £480,000 ring fenced Standards Fund Grant and £400,000 reserved in the ISB generated by the first phase of the change from nursery place funding to attendance funding. £100,000 has been earmarked for central costs associated with introducing the change – including staffing, events, advertising and printing. Although the Single Consistent Funding Formula will not be brought in until April 2010, some of the elements of the suggested formula are included in the proposed funding for Phase 1s. However it must be emphasised that the 2009/10 funding scheme will not be the same as that for 2010/11 – there may be other elements, alternative weightings between factors and different funding rates.

The table below shows the proposed funding for Phase 1 providers for the period September 2009 – March 2010 inclusive - this is in addition to the budget share already announced for schools and the standard rate of £8.97 per 2½ session in PVI's and Children's Centres.

PHASE 1 Pilot - Additional Funding from SEPTEMBER 09		
Element	Details	Cost (£)
Additional 2½ hours per week – 20% extra on the AWPU or NEF rate (£330 per annum on AWPU, £340 per annum on the PVI rate)	Schools to receive an additional 20% Nursery AWPU funding if they are offering 20% more provision per child. Children's Centres and PVIs will be able to claim up to 15 hours per child per week from September.	290,000
Deprivation Deprivation is closely correlated with low attainment and additional educational needs. (£56 per child per annum on average)	The DCSF require that deprivation is a factor in the single funding formula. We propose to calculate an average IDACI score for each setting linked to the postcodes of each child taking up the free entitlement.	84,000
Flexibility The more flexibility offered the more difficulty the setting will have in maximising occupancy and monitoring the EYFS (£95 per annum per child for Level 1)	Phase 1 schools and settings will offer one of three levels of flexibility: Level 0: Parents offered five mornings or five afternoons of 3 hours each. Level 1: Parents able to choose any five morning and / or afternoon sessions Level 2: Parents able to choose three 5 hour sessions each week The funding rate for Level 2 would be double that of Level 1. No funding for Level 0.	84,000
Basic Entitlement £100 per child per annum up to a maximum of £3000.	This has been an element of the school funding formula for over 10 years and is designed to recognise the additional burden of managing admissions and other administration associated with running a nursery. As schools already receive this, the extra cost is only for PVIs	16,000
Phase 1 Start-up - £200 per part time equivalent (PTE) child claiming the free entitlement	This grant is an incentive to Phase 1s to take a leading role in this new initiative, acting as pathfinders for providers entering the scheme next year. The money should be used for any one-off startup costs, but not ongoing expenses as the grant will not be available in following years.	306,000
TOTAL		780,000

Recommendation: The Schools Forum endorses the above funding scheme for Phase 1 providers of the extension to the free entitlement.

6.2: Single Funding Formula from April 2010 and Consultation with Providers

From April 2010, all local authorities must have in place a single consistent funding formula for all providers of the free entitlement. Funding must be based on actual attendance, rather than places and must include an element for deprivation.

Barnet began preparing for this change in 2007 by consulting with maintained schools on the move from place to participation funding. As a result, 2009/10 is a transition year in which nursery schools and classes are funded for a number of children halfway between places and participation.

Private providers (PVI) and children's centres (CCs) are already funded by participation for the free entitlement, and they make termly claims. From 2010/11 maintained schools will also be funded on termly counts but PVI and CCs will benefit from a formula that reflects their needs more closely than a single flat rate per child.

The government has still to publish the following documents

- New Code of Practice for providing the free entitlement
- Changes in regulations for school budget shares including the Minimum Funding Guarantee (primary legislation involving parliament)
- Regulations or guidance on counting nursery attendance for funding purposes

Lessons learned from the Phase 1 pilot will need to be incorporated into any final proposal but at present the Early Years Working Group recommends consultation on a formula with the following elements:

Basic Rate	Funding for first 12½ hours of provision replacing the school age weighted pupil unit (AWPU) and the nursery education funding (NEF) rate – about £1700 per pupil	Consultation – 1 question about a single hourly rate
Funding for extension	A 20% premium on the Basic Rate	
Deprivation	A premium on the basic rate for the additional educational need typically arising from deprivation	Consultation – 1 question about measuring deprivation
Flexibility	A premium on the basic rate for the additional costs and lower occupancy arising from higher levels of flexibility of offer	Consultation – 2 questions about levels of flexibility and relative funding rates
Qualifications	A premium on the basic rate for the additional costs from employing more highly qualified staff which will raise the quality of offer.	Consultation – 2 questions on rate of funding and merits of a lump sum versus a per child amount.
Basic Entitlement	A small amount (maximum £3000) for all providers recognising the administration and management involved in providing the free entitlement	Consultation – 1 question on desirability of this element

The consultation would ask 2 more questions - about the frequency of adjustments to reflect changing pupil numbers, and (for private providers) timing of payments into bank accounts.

To ensure all providers are treated equitably, we will also look at the totality of funding available to schools and settings – schools receive standards funds and private settings receive grants for training and SEN.

Many private providers charge 'top-ups' at present (ie they only offer sessions of 3 hours or more and charge a higher than usual fee for additional childcare to make up any difference

between the setting's fee rate and the LA funding). We expect the new Code of Practice to strengthen the requirement that the free entitlement should be free at the point of delivery wherever it is taken up. This is a major worry to many private providers. Neither the DCSF nor the EYWG has any wish to cause financial difficulty to any settings, although it is recognised that the new formula cannot support uneconomic businesses. Even so, because there is not sufficient money to fund at the fee level many settings will need extensive support in the transition period in order to prevent them from opting out completely. Both settings and parents will be provided with clear guidance on what additional services can be charged for.

We should not underestimate the level of disruption these changes will bring to some schools and settings, especially those small private providers who may already be struggling financially. Unfortunately, unlike maintained schools, private providers are still reluctant to engage in discussions about funding and running costs. Nevertheless it is vital that we consult fully with all settings and allow them give us their views before final decisions are taken on their future funding and any conditions associated with it.

Whilst awaiting DCSF regulations, this summer we will consult all schools and settings on the principles of the proposed funding formula. We will launch the consultation at the beginning of June, giving providers half a term to respond. In the autumn we will carry out an assessment of the pilot, discuss the results of the assessment and consultation at the Early Years Working Group (EYWG) and make recommendations to the Schools Forum in December. The Schools Forum's recommendations will be presented for approval by cabinet in January 2010. This gives three months to make adjustments before the beginning of the new financial year 2010/11.

Recommendation: That the Schools Forum agrees to support this approach to the development of early years funding for 2010/11 and beyond, and monitor progress over the next 9 months.