

Notice of Schools Forum



Date: Monday, 16 January 2023 at 10.00 am

Venue: Committee Room, First Floor, BCP Civic Centre Annex, St Stephen's Rd, Bournemouth BH2 6LL / Via MS Teams

Membership:

Chairman:

Geoff Cherrill

Vice Chairman:

Patrick Earnshaw

Russell Arnold
Mark Avoth
Kate Carter
Jon Chapple
Esther Curry
Lauren Dean
Ben Doyle
Linda Duly

Phillip Gavin
Brigid Hincks
Sue Johnson
Marie Lane
Nadine Lapskas
Dorian Lewis
Jacqueline Page
Jeremy Payne

Sean Preston
Dave Simpson
Sian Thomas
VACANCY
Cllr N Greene
Cllr M White

All Members of the Schools Forum are summoned to attend this remote meeting to consider the items of business set out on the agenda below.

The press and public are welcome to attend this remote meeting and should email any request to do so to the meeting contact below, and a meeting invite will be sent.

<https://democracy.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?MIId=5558>

If you would like any further information on the items to be considered at the meeting please contact: Nicky Hooley on 01202 096660 or email democratic.services@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

Press enquiries should be directed to the Press Office: Tel: 01202 118686 or email press.office@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

This notice and all the papers mentioned within it are available at democracy.bcpCouncil.gov.uk

GRAHAM FARRANT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

6 January 2023



Available online and
on the Mod.gov app

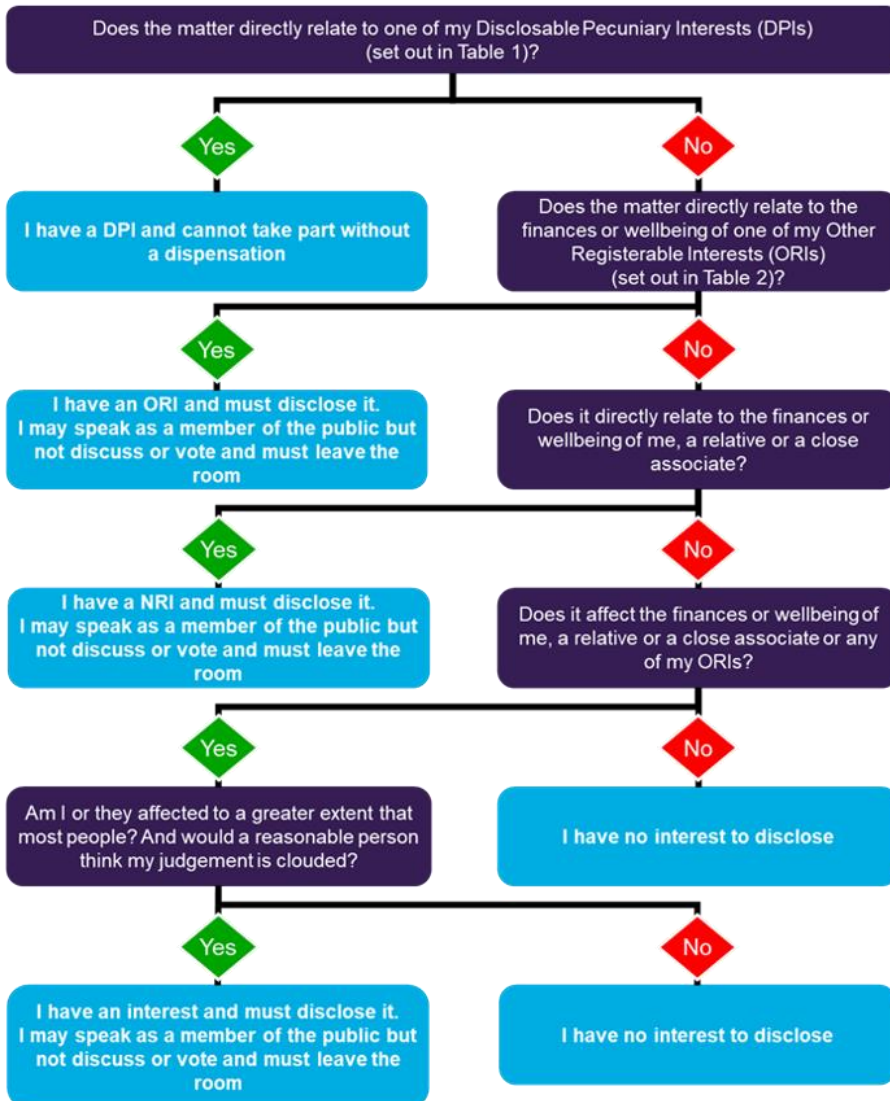


Maintaining and promoting high standards of conduct

Declaring interests at meetings

Familiarise yourself with the Councillor Code of Conduct which can be found in Part 6 of the Council's Constitution.

Before the meeting, read the agenda and reports to see if the matters to be discussed at the meeting concern your interests



What are the principles of bias and pre-determination and how do they affect my participation in the meeting?

Bias and predetermination are common law concepts. If they affect you, your participation in the meeting may call into question the decision arrived at on the item.

Bias Test

In all the circumstances, would it lead a fair minded and informed observer to conclude that there was a real possibility or a real danger that the decision maker was biased?

Predetermination Test

At the time of making the decision, did the decision maker have a closed mind?

If a councillor appears to be biased or to have predetermined their decision, they must NOT participate in the meeting.

For more information or advice please contact the Monitoring Officer
(susan.zeiss@bcpcouncil.gov.uk)

Selflessness

Councillors should act solely in terms of the public interest

Integrity

Councillors must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might try inappropriately to influence them in their work. They should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships

Objectivity

Councillors must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias

Accountability

Councillors are accountable to the public for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this

Openness

Councillors should act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner. Information should not be withheld from the public unless there are clear and lawful reasons for so doing

Honesty & Integrity

Councillors should act with honesty and integrity and should not place themselves in situations where their honesty and integrity may be questioned

Leadership

Councillors should exhibit these principles in their own behaviour. They should actively promote and robustly support the principles and be willing to challenge poor behaviour wherever it occurs

AGENDA

Items to be considered while the meeting is open to the public

1. Apologies for Absence

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillors are requested to declare any interests on items included in this agenda. Please refer to the workflow on the preceding page for guidance. Declarations received will be reported at the meeting.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 13 December 2022, as a correct record.

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4. Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF) 2023-24

This report sets out the options for the early years single funding formula (EYSFF) for the financial year 2023/24 to enable a recommendation to be made to the council.

Central budgets to support the council's statutory duties for early years are also set out in the report for agreement.

A summary of responses to the consultation undertaken with the sector is in the process of being collated and will follow (as Appendix 2).

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5. DSG Settlement and Draft Budget for 2023-24

1. The DSG Settlement for 2023-24 was received on 16 December 2022. Compared with 2022-23 it provided a 6.4% increase in funding overall:
 - a. Indicative allocations for the early years block reflecting increased unit values of 5% for 2 year olds and 5.2% for 3&4 year olds.
 - b. Final allocations for the school's block based on the October 2022 schools census with the increase in funding through the schools NFF at £6 million (2.5%). Higher funding values account for £3.7 million (1.5%) as reported in November, with additional pupils at census providing a further £2.3 million (1.0%). Funding for in-year pupil growth at September 2023, has decreased by £43,000 compared with last year.
 - c. A supplementary grant for mainstream schools was announced in the Autumn statement. The £8.5 million for BCP is equivalent to a further funding increase of 3.5%, bringing the mainstream schools increase to 6.0% overall.
 - d. Allocations for the central school services block provide a reduction compared with last year of £12,000 for on-going LA functions with previous levels of funding not yet restored for historic commitments.
 - e. Indicative allocations for the high needs block are for an increase of £5.2 million (9.7%). This includes the supplementary grant for high needs providers of £2.4 million announced in the Autumn Statement.

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A draft DSG budget is provided in the Appendix to provide context for decisions on the meeting agenda. The funding gap for high needs pupils is projected to grow to £27 million in 2023/24.

6. School Funding Consultation and Budget Proposals 2023-24	65 - 84
<p>This report sets out the outcome of the 2023-24 school funding consultation and considers proposals for the DSG budget</p> <p>The schools block proposals include that the mainstream schools funding formula is to continue to adopt the National Funding Formula (NFF), but with a cap introduced to limit per pupil gains, the existing growth fund policy is maintained, and the balance of funding is transferred to support the high needs budget. Also included are budget proposals for the central school services block.</p>	
7. Central Retention and De-delegation Consultation	85 - 112
<p>This report provides proposals for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the central retention of services where the LA retains a statutory duty to undertake activity to support maintained schools only (both mainstream and specialist);• de-delegation of services applicable only to mainstream schools. These are services where schools retain the statutory duties, but better efficiency could be achieved through central delivery by the LA.	
8. SEND Capital Programme and Delivering Better Value (DBV)	113 - 134
<p>This report provides an update on the Council's progress as part of its participation in the Department for Education's Delivering Better Value (DBV) programme. The programme is designed to provide dedicated support and funding to help local authorities with substantial deficit issues in their high needs block of the dedicated schools grant (DSG) to reform their high needs systems. BCP Council is one of 55 LAs participating in the first cohort of the programme. The Council is using the DBV programme to validate the direction of travel of the Council's Written Statement of Action and High Needs Block Recovery Plans and further inform the prioritisation of workstreams, their implementation and associated timelines. The programme will help BCP Council prepare and submit a grant application for transformation funding of £1m and this will be used to impact the trajectory of high needs expenditure.</p>	
9. Looked After Children Pupil Premium Arrangements 2023-24	135 - 146
<p>This report supports the presentation of a draft policy owned by the Virtual School relating to Pupil Premium plus funding for 23-24.</p>	
10. High Needs Consultation	To Follow
<p>To receive an update on the High Needs consultation.</p>	
11. Forward Plan	To Follow
<p>To consider and note the Forward Plan</p>	

12. Dates of Future Meetings

The Schools Forum is scheduled to meet on the following dates:

- Monday 26 June 2023, 10:00am
- Monday 25 September 2023, 10:00am

13. Any Other Business

To consider any other business, which, in the opinion of the Chairman, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration.

No other items of business can be considered unless the Chairman decides the matter is urgent for reasons that must be specified and recorded in the Minutes.