

# Notice of Schools Forum



Date: Monday, 15 January 2024 at 10.00 am

Venue: HMS Phoebe, BCP Civic Centre, Bournemouth BH2 6DY / Remotely  
Via MS Teams

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## Membership:

### Chairman:

Geoff Cherrill Maintained Special

### Vice-Chairman:

Patrick Earnshaw	Academies - Secondary
Kate Carter	Academies - Primary
Esther Curry	Academies - Primary
Kate Curtis	Academies - Primary
Sean Preston	Academies - Primary
Heather Waugh	Academies - Primary
Vacancy	Academies - Primary
Vacancy	Academies - Primary
Mark Avoth	Academies - Secondary
Paul Gray	Academies - Secondary
Michelle Dyer	Academies - Secondary
James Sankey	Academies - Secondary
Natasha Ullah	Academies - Secondary
Sian Thomas	Special Academy
Ben Doyle	All Through Academies
Russell Arnold	Alternative Provision Academy
Brigid Hincks	Maintained Primary (Governor)
Chris Barnett	Maintained Secondary
Phillip Gavin	Mainstream PRU
Vicky Peters	Early Years
Linda Duly	Early Years
Dorian Lewis	14-19 Provision
Vacancy	Catholic Diocese
Vacancy	CofE Diocese
Cllr R Burton	LA Observer Member

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

This meeting is open to the public. It is a hybrid meeting you may join in person at the above venue or contact democratic services in advance to join Via MS Teams.

<https://democracy.bcpCouncil.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?MIId=5760>

If you would like any further information on the items to be considered at the meeting please contact: Claire Johnston email [democratic.services@bcpCouncil.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@bcpCouncil.gov.uk)

Press enquiries should be directed to the Press Office: Tel: 01202 454668 or email [press.office@bcpCouncil.gov.uk](mailto:press.office@bcpCouncil.gov.uk)

This notice and all the papers mentioned within it are available at [democracy.bcpCouncil.gov.uk](https://democracy.bcpCouncil.gov.uk)

GRAHAM FARRANT  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

8 January 2024

**DEBATE**  
**NOT HATE**



Available online and  
on the Mod.gov app

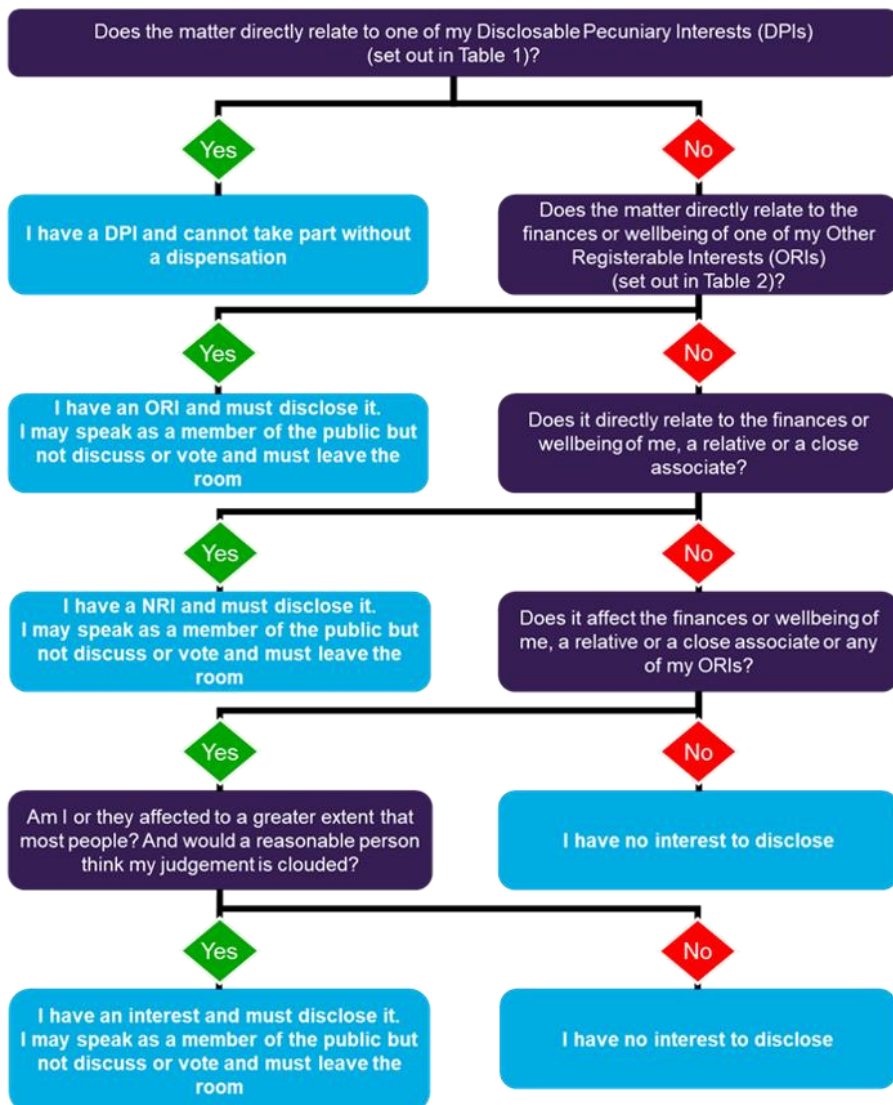


## Maintaining and promoting high standards of conduct

### 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  
([janie.berry@bcpcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:janie.berry@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

7 - 12

To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 13 December 2023, as a correct record.

## 4. Dedicated Schools Grant Settlement and Draft Budget 2024-25

13 - 20

1. The DSG Settlement for 2024-25 was received on 19 December 2023. It included:
  - a. Indicative allocations for the early years block reflecting the new free entitlements in 2024-25.
  - b. Final allocations for the school's block based on the October 2023 schools census with the increase in funding through the schools NFF at £5.1m (2%). Higher funding values account for £4.3m (1.7%) with additional pupils at census providing a further £0.8m (0.3%). Funding for in-year pupil growth at September 2024, has increased by £83,000 (4.6%) compared with last year.
  - c. Allocations for the central school services block provide an increase of £55,000 (3.2%) compared with last year for on-going LA functions with previous levels of funding not yet restored for historic commitments.
  - d. Allocations for the high needs block are an increase of £1.7m (3%).
  - e. A draft DSG budget for 2024-25 is provided in the Appendix to provide context for decisions on the meeting agenda. The funding gap for high needs pupils is projected to be £29m in the absence of additional funding sources.

The report also includes budget monitoring information for quarter three 2023-24. This indicates that the accumulated DSG deficit is projected at £63m for March 2024, rising to £92m by March 2025.

## 5. DSG Management Plan 2024 to 2039

To Follow

## 6. Mainstream School Funding and Transfer to High Needs 2024/25

21 - 34

This report sets out the outcome of applying the 2024-25 National Funding Formula (NFF) to the October 2023 schools census data and options for the local mainstream schools funding formula linked to a transfer of funding to high needs.

It also sets out the 2024-25 growth fund budget for approval.

## 7. Maintained school services – de-delegation and central retention

35 - 62

This report provides proposals for:

- 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. Forward Plan**

63 - 64

To consider and note the Forward Plan

## **9. Dates of Future Meetings**

February 2024 - Date TBC

24 June 2024

23 September 2024

18 November 2024

13 January 2025

23 June 2025

## **10. Any Other Business**

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

## **11. Exclusion of the Public and Press**

To consider passing the following Resolution (if required):

"RESOLVED that, in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the Meeting for the following item(s) of business on the grounds that it/they may involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph(s) [INSERT PARAGRAPH NUMBER HERE] of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Said Act as the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it".

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.