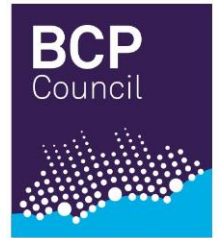


Notice of Schools Forum



Date: Wednesday, 13 December 2023 at 3.00 pm

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

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
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

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

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

Press enquiries should be directed to the Press Office: Tel: 01202 454668 or email press.office@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

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

GRAHAM FARRANT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

6 December 2023

**DEBATE
NOT HATE**

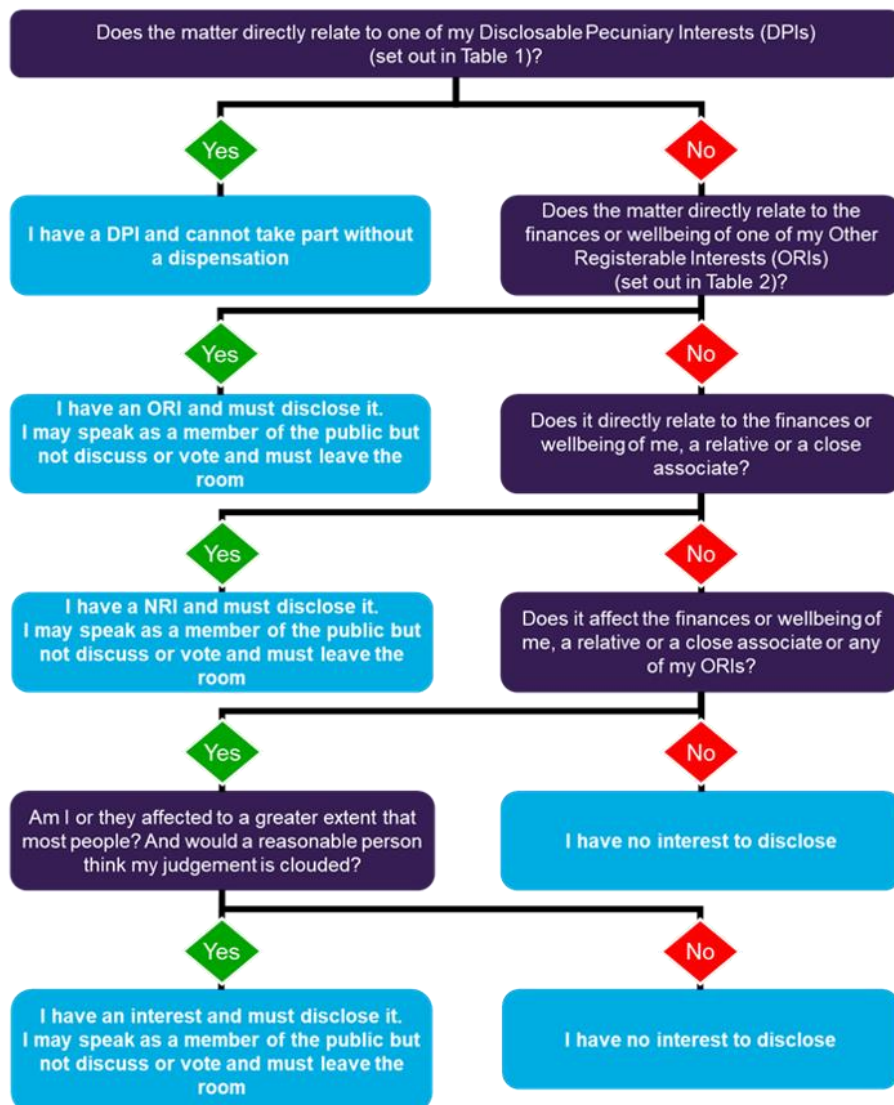


Maintaining and promoting high standards of conduct

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
(richard.jones2@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 25 September 2023, as a correct record.

5 - 10

4. Reconstitution of the Schools Forum

To provide a verbal update to the Forum on the reconstitution and welcome new members.

5. Dedicated Schools Grant Budget Monitoring 2023/24 at Quarter 2

The report considers the projected year end position which is that the budgeted funding gap of £27.1 million will be realised across all DSG blocks.

The cumulative deficit at 31 March 2024 is forecast to be £62.9 million including the schools block variance, which is not yet referenced in the deficit management plan.

11 - 14

6. Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Management Plan

The DSG accumulated deficit has grown rapidly from £3.6 million in April 2019 to £35.8 million by March 2023, with £63.4 million estimated for March 2024 from the high needs funding gap.

As a result of the high deficit, BCP was invited to join the DfE's Safety Valve (SV) Programme in July 2023. Local authorities with SV agreements are asked to focus on one mission statement: to develop plans to reform their high needs systems as quickly as possible to provide a good service within their available funding, normally by the end of a maximum five-year period.

The deficit growth over 2023-24 reflects an annual DSG high needs funding gap of £27.5 million. The council is required to undertake temporarily borrowing to fund the cash payments. This borrowing cost is estimated to cost the council £2.5m in 2023-24 and is to the detriment of services that it would otherwise be able to provide.

This report outlines the progress made in developing a deficit management plan and next steps underway.

15 - 24

7. School Funding Consultation and Budget Proposals 2024-25	25 - 84
<p>This report includes the outcome of the school funding consultation for 2024-25 and considers proposals for the DSG budget</p> <p>The proposals include that surplus schools block funding is transferred to support the high needs budget. Also considered is how a higher level of transfer can be achieved through mainstream schools contributing from national formula allocations. The amount of the transfer proposed for 2024-25 will be considered with the DfE as part of the deficit management plan discussions in December and January 2024.</p> <p>The consultation also included proposals for a revised growth fund policy and considered funding allocated through the central school services block for 2024-25.</p> <p>Responses to the consultation are set out in Appendix 2 (to follow).</p>	
8. Early Years Funding Update 2024/25	85 - 88
<p>This report presents an overview of upcoming changes to childcare support and an approach to 2024-2025 Early Years Single Funding Formula development.</p>	
9. Forward Plan	89 - 90
<p>To consider and note the Forward Plan</p>	
10. Dates of Future Meetings	
<p>Schools Forum Dates for the remainder of 2023/24 and 2024/25 are scheduled as follows:</p> <p>15/01/2024, 10:00</p> <p>24/06/2024, 10:00</p> <p>23/09/2024, 10:00</p> <p>18/11/2024, 10:00</p> <p>13/01/2025, 10:00</p> <p>23/06/2025, 10:00</p>	
11. Any Other Business	
<p>To consider any other business, which, in the opinion of the Chairman, is of sufficient urgency to warrant consideration.</p>	

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.