

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GROUP & SCHOOLS FORUM

Minutes of the meeting held on 2 October 2003, at the Derek Fatchett CLC, 3.30pm

Present	Janet Poynting	Southroyd Primary
	Juliet Agar	Farsley Springbank Junior
	Joyce Kitwood	JCC Rep
	Tim Hales	JCC Rep
	David Dewhirst	Broomfield Special School
	Gerry O'Kane	Corpus Christi Catholic Primary
	Richard Sheriff	Temple Moor High
	Mark Edwards	Ralph Thoresby High
	Elizabeth McGuire	St Michael's Catholic College
	Patricia Farrell	WY Black Governors Support Service
	John Ellis	Cockburn High
	Bob Stott	Wetherby High
	Julia Norton	Hunslet Moor Primary
	Maggie Brown	West Leeds High
	Judith High	Governor
	Janet Newell	Diocese of Ripon and Leeds
	Sheila Slater	LSC West Yorkshire
	Ken Torode	Diocese of Ripon and Leeds
	Derek Haynes	Education Leeds
	Dave Dickinson	Education Leeds
Chris Edwards	Education Leeds	
Simon Darby	Education Leeds	
Maxine Parker	Education Leeds	
Apologies	David McDermott	Education Leeds
	Martin Hollos	Education Leeds
	Peter Miller	Milestone Primary
	Penny Lewis	Allerton High
	Joe McNally	St Benedict's Catholic Primary
	Max Amesbury	Gledhow Primary

1.0 Education & School funding briefing – Simon Darby

Simon delivered his presentation and documents were circulated (*attached for those absent*).

The following questions / concerns were raised ;

Q. When will the new regulations be implemented ?

A. The DfES proposals on a minimum guaranteed increase in funding per pupil will come into effect from April 2004. Any restrictions on central spending compared to delegated spending will also come in at the same time.

Q. What is the Government's view of inflation on the formula ?

A. The Government is assuming 2.5%. However, it is likely that schools will be guaranteed a minimum increase in funding per pupil of 3.5% to 4.5%.

Q. With relation to the formula model could Education Leeds look at the extra money received and then decide what to spend it on? Another option could be that we look at the model and see how it fits with our current situation / expectations.

A. It is unclear as to what, if any, real growth there will be in school funding for 2004/05. There are some additional needs such as Early Years Funding for Inclusion and removal of the Learning and Skills Council cap on school gains that must be funded. The minimum guaranteed increase in per pupil funding may direct us to increase pupil-led funding at the expense of that needed under our funding principles.

Q. What are the likely financial implications in 2006 with relation to the new PFI builds.

A. From April 2006 there could be a number of budget pressures of which the revenue implications of PFI is just one. The review of EIC funding could be the most significant for schools.

Q. One member explained that she had attended a meeting regarding SRB3 funding and alternative ways of funding. From this meeting a committee was set up, but as yet no further meetings have been arranged.

A. We were not aware of this meeting but we'll look into it. (Since the meeting David McDermott has checked with Jon Hosegood (Headteacher of Primrose HS) who had set up the meeting between the schools involved and their MPs). Jon has confirmed that there has been no progress.)

The following issues were discussed ;

- Alan Gay – Director of Corporate Services will be attending the next Schools Forum to give a presentation on the Leeds City Council Budget.

- A discussion regarding Base funding ensued and it was stated that if base funding was to be increased it would need to be at the expense of another area within the formula, which would need careful consideration. One member suggested that this issue should be looked at, to make sure each area has the correct amount allocated. It was pointed out that this may cause much unrest between schools due to the winner and loser debate and that if any changes had to be made they should be minimised. It was stressed that we should embark on a review of the formula now even though Government restrictions might limit our ability to implement any changes in 2004/05. If we delayed we would not be in a position to change anything for 2005/06.

- In summing up David McDermott asked the meeting how they would like to move forward.

Agreed – A further workshop will be arranged. The nature of this workshop will be

decided at the next Forum meeting.

- The meeting thanked Finance for their excellent presentation.