

# Schools Forum Decision Statement



**Meeting Date: Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

**Published: Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2020**

Item	Topic	Decision
1.	Appointment of Chairman / woman and Vice Chairman / woman	<p>Having been duly nominated and seconded</p> <p>It was resolved:</p> <p>To appoint Jon Culpin as Chairman and Paul Stratford as the Vice Chairman for the Municipal Year 2020-21.</p> <p>Tribute was paid to the outgoing Chairman, Philip Hodgson, for his outstanding contribution as the long standing Chairman of Forum.</p>
2.	Apologies for absence and Declarations of Interest	<p>Apologies were received from Carole Moss (Secondary Maintained) and Joe McCrossan (Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia)</p> <p>No declarations of interest were made.</p>
3.	Minutes – 25 <sup>th</sup> February 2020	<p>It was resolved:</p> <p>To approve the minutes of the meeting of 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020 as a correct record.</p>
4.	Minute Action Log	<p>It was resolved:</p> <p>To note the action log.</p>

5.	Cambridgeshire County Council's Response to Covid 19	<p>Having commented, including congratulating Jon Lewis and his team, for their excellent work and support provided to schools during the lockdown</p> <p>It was resolved:</p> <p>To note the continued commitment of leaders and staff across Children's Services and partner agencies to ensure that the Education needs of all children and young people continued to be met.</p>
6.	Update on High Needs Recovery Plan	<p>There was a discussion regarding how much additional expenditure had been undertaken during the lockdown in respect of items such as Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Cleaning, Free school Meals, Special Education Needs etc. where there had currently been no recompense from Government. The Director of Education agreed that in consultation with the Chairmen of Forum and the Children and Young People Committee he would prepare a letter to be sent to the Department for Education seeking additional compensatory funding so that schools would not be further disadvantaged.</p> <p>Having commented on the report,</p> <p>It was resolved:</p> <p>To note the report.</p>
7.	Schools and Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Financial Health	<p>In discussion as there had not yet been the opportunity to consult with schools on the proposals for potentially changing the balance control mechanisms as set out in the report, officers would not be asking the maintained sector representatives to consider making any changes at the current meeting. Further information would be shared with schools in the autumn term with a planned implementation from April 2021.</p> <p>It was therefore resolved to just,</p> <p>Note the report.</p>

8.	Review of Schools Forum Constitution Terms of Reference	<p>It was resolved to:</p> <p><b>a)</b> Agree the changes set out in section 2 of the report at paragraphs 2.5, 2.7 and 2.8 as set out below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A decision summary to be published two working days following the day of the meeting</li> <li>• Minutes to be published 10 working days after the date of the meeting</li> <li>• The term of office for members of the Cambridgeshire Schools Forum is unlimited providing they are re-elected every 4 years by the group they represent. All terms will conclude on 31 August of their final year unless there are extraordinary circumstances such as the recent covid crisis which either prevents an election taking place, or there is not a scheduled Schools Forum to confirm any new appointments. In such circumstances membership is extended by one year or until such time a replacement is agreed.</li> <li>• Under C) Operating Conventions of Cambridgeshire Schools Forum Changing the reference to the number of meetings of Forum to now read as follows:</li> </ul> <p><b>Ordinary meetings</b></p> <p>An ordinary meeting of the Forum shall be held, at a minimum, of four times a year with additional meetings to be scheduled around budget setting time or if an urgent decision is required from Forum.</p> <p><b>b)</b> Agree that Democratic Services in consultation with the Chairman/ woman and the Service Director Education is authorised make any minor changes in the Forum Constitution referencing seats allocated on Forum to reflect any changes</p>
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		made in the proportionality of the Forum representation that may be agreed during the year.
9.	Review of Membership and Proportionality	<p>Having commented, including a suggestion that future appointments should take into consideration the need for Forum to embrace a greater degree of ethnic diversity in its membership, for which the Chairman agreed he would take the suggestion away to discuss it further with the Academy sector representatives,</p> <p>It was resolved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) To note the current report.</li> <li>b) To agree to Increase the academy sector membership seats representation by one and decrease the maintained sector seats representation by one place to come into effect from September 2020.</li> <li>c) The reduction in the Maintained sector to be achieved by the reduction in the number of Primary heads seats from four to three.</li> </ul>
11.	Schools Forum Forward Agenda Plan	<p>It was resolved to:</p> <p>Note the agenda plan as set out on the agenda and that Officers in August would review it and provide an updated version to the scheduled Forum meeting in November.</p>

**Notes:** Statements in bold type indicate additional resolutions made at the meeting.

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