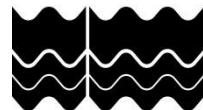


East Sussex County Council Schools Forum

Friday 17th Sept 2021

08.30am

East Sussex
County Council



Remote Meeting

Agenda

Item	Heading	Paper	Lead	Item for
1.	Welcome and Apologies	N	Chair	Note
2.	Minutes of previous meeting 9th July 2021	Y	Chair	Approval
3.	Chair and Vice Chair	N	Ed Beale	Discussion
4.	Matters Arising and Declaration of Interests	N	Chair	Discussion
5.	Update on the DfE's consultation on the Sparsity Funding Factor	Y	Ed Beale	Information
6.	De-delegation Approval 2022/23	Y	Sarah Rice / Beth Armstrong	Approval
7.	School Insurance Update	Y	Rawdon Phillips	Information
8.	School Forum Meeting Dates	Y	Ed Beale	Information
	AOB			

Next Meeting: Friday 19TH November 2021, 8.30am, Venue TBC (Remote or Wellshurst Golf and Country Club)

Draft Items for next meeting:

- Growth Fund / Falling Rolls Fund - Approval
- DSG – Central School Services Block - Approval

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EAST SUSSEX SCHOOLS' FORUM

MINUTES of a meeting of the Schools' Forum held remotely with Microsoft Teams on 09 July 2021

PRESENT

Hugh Hennebry - **Chair** (Uckfield College)
Sarah Pringle (Seahaven Academy)
Gavin Bailey (Swale Academy Trust)
Mandy Watson (Diocese of Chichester)
Joanna Sanchez (Diocese of Arundel and Brighton)
Jo Foulkes (Sabden Multi Academy Trust)
Phil Matthews (Hailsham Community College Academy Trust)
Helen Key (Chailey School)
Phil Clarke (Trade Union Representative)
Tom Scully (University of Brighton Academies Trust)
Jane Johnson (Newick CE Primary)
James Freeston (King Offa Primary Academy)
Richard Preece (Saxon Mount and Torfield)

Cllr Bob Standley (Lead Member for Education and Inclusion,
Special Educational Needs and Disability)
Stuart Gallimore (Director Children's Services)
Edward Beale (Schools Funding Manager)
Sarah Rice (Finance Manager – Schools)
Nathan Caine (Head of ISEND)
Elizabeth Funge (Head of Education Improvement)
Kirsten Coe (Schools Finance Team Lead)
Lesley Leppard (Clerk)

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

- 1.1 Hugh welcomed all and thanked everyone for their attendance.
It was confirmed the meeting was quorate, recognising the apologies below.
- 1.2 Apologies received from:

- Kate Owbridge (Ashdown Primary)
- Richard Blakeley (Harlands Primary)
- Susan Thompson (Ditchling Primary)
- Monica Whitehead (Claverham Community College) not present
- Geoffrey Lucas (Etchingham CE Primary School) not present

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING 19 MARCH 2021

- 2.1 The minutes for the meeting held were approved as a true record and will be signed by the Chair and scanned to Lesley Leppard.

3. **MATTERS ARISING AND DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

- 3.1 Nathan thanked those who met with all the East Sussex MP's for the High Needs Block Consultation discussion. An update has been sent to Hugh Merriman. There is no national update yet but once received this will be sent out.
- 3.2 Hugh requested an update on whether future Schools' Forum meetings would be able to be held virtually recognising that this was more convenient for most headteachers. The clerk will enquire and update the Forum members.
- 3.3 There were no declaration of interests.

4. **School Improvement and Brokering Grant Update (Information)**

- 4.1 An update of the main points of the paper was given.
- 4.2 A question was raised about what data would be shared and a discussion was held.

5. **Monthly Top Up Funding (Information)**

- 5.1 The main points of the paper were discussed.
- 5.2 The Forum were advised that there is capacity in the High Needs provision and this will be passed back to schools.
- 5.3 A question was raised relating to www.Gov.ask website where the stats were found to be different from those East Sussex County Council (ESCC) provided. An explanation was given on how ESCC used data from 0-25 whilst the website used school-based population data.
- 5.4 A point was raised that it was important to ensure the figures were correct as this is how funding would be allocated. Clarification was given on the difference between ESCC and National figures.
- 5.5 It was raised that special schools were being slightly overlooked and they were in a challenging financial position. Nathan advised that if the current top up was not meeting demand to advise him which school and it would be investigated.

6. **Proposal to provide short term funding (Information)**

- 6.1 Nathan advised that the Senco's found using the statutory assessment process unnecessary when an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) was not needed, this is where short term funding could be made available.
- 6.2 A discussion was held regarding the high number of EHCP's. A scheme was being proposed for a 2 year pilot of providing funding to support to schools to improve provision for children with SEND
- 6.3 It was acknowledged that there needed to be a thorough process in place to ensure that demand did not outstrip the resource.
- 6.4 A question was raised about there being a prerequisite to an EHCP but Nathan advised that it was not. If the statutory requirement was not met additional funding might be available.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 7.1 The Chair asked Forum members to think about the challenges of the group.
- 7.2 **ACTION:** All to think about how the Forum blends in with the Primary and Secondary Boards and how to strategically join them all together.
- 7.3 **ACTION:** All to think about talent management and how we encourage others to join the Forum. How the group is managed and chaired alternating between Primary and Secondary as Chair.
- 7.4 The Forum were asked to reflect by the next meeting in September where they would formalise a way to get new members.
- 7.5 The Chair gave a thank you to Stuart Gallimore who was retiring for his contribution to the Forum and wished him a happy retirement.

Meeting concluded at 09:17 am

Next meeting – Friday 17 September 2021 08:30am. Location TBC - Wellshurst Golf and Country Club or Microsoft Teams.

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Report to:	East Sussex Schools Forum
Date of meeting:	17 Sept 2021
Report By:	Director of Children's Services
Title:	Update on the outcome of the Department for Education (DfE) consultation on changes to the Sparsity Factor from 2022/23
Purpose:	To provide an update to Schools Forum on the outcome of the DfE's Sparsity consultation

RECOMMENDATION

East Sussex Schools Forum are asked to note the outcome of the DfE's Sparsity consultation and that as a result the number of eligible schools could increase from 15 to 36 in 2022/23.

1 Background

1.1 The School National Funding Formula contains a number of funding factors, one of which is a Sparsity Factor. One of the main aims of this factor is to provide some additional funding to small rural schools.

1.2 In March '21, the DfE issued a consultation which reviewed the Sparsity factor, in preparation for financial year 2022/23, with a proposal to broaden the reach of the sparsity factor to a greater number of small schools. The current criteria for schools to be eligible for this funding is:

- The average year group size is below the appropriate year group threshold. This threshold is 21.4 for primary schools, 120 for secondary schools and 62.5 for All Through Schools
 - and
- For all the pupils for whom it is the nearest compatible school, the average distance (currently calculated 'as the crow flies', using straight-line distances) from each pupil's home postcode to their second nearest compatible school is equal to or more than three miles (for secondary schools) or two miles (for all other schools).

2 Consultation Outcome

2.1 The DfE have confirmed that, from 2022/23, some of the current criteria for eligibility will change. The criteria will be:

- The average year group size is below the appropriate year group threshold. This threshold is 21.4 for primary schools, 120 for secondary schools and 62.5 for All Through Schools (***This remains unchanged from the current criteria.***)

and

- The distance will be measured by road journeys rather than 'as the crow flies'.

2.2 The DfE have also confirmed that the maximum amount that an eligible school could receive will increase by £10k. This means that the maximum value will be £55k (primary phase) and £80k (Secondary Phase).

2.3 Using the DfE's consultation examples, the number of schools in East Sussex eligible for Sparsity funding could increase from 15 to 36.

3. Next Steps

3.1 To help inform those schools potentially due to receive Sparsity funding in 2022/23, revised estimated future year budgets are to be issued by Schools Finance (Using estimated NOR provided by the schools).

3.2 Revised budget plans will be issued because the DfE's examples used historic pupil data (19/20) and therefore, given that it's the NOR that determine how much an eligible school receives, there could be some fluctuation between what schools can expect to receive and the DfE's exemplifications.

Alison Jeffery

Director Childrens Services

Contact Officer: Ed Beale

Tel. No. 01273 337984

Email: Edward.beale@eastsussex.gov.uk

Report to: East Sussex Schools Forum

Date of meeting: 17 Sept 2021

Report By: Director of Children's Services

Title: De-delegating budgets for Primary and Secondary maintained schools

Purpose: To advise Forum which budgets were de-delegated by schools in 2021/22 and seek approval on de-delegated budgets for 2022/23.

Recommendation:

The Primary and Secondary maintained Schools Forum Representatives are asked to decide which services should be provided centrally by the Authority for 2022/23.

1. Background

1.1 Since 2013/14 the Department for Education (DfE) has required that Schools Forum agree to de-delegate budgets for certain services provided centrally by the Local Authority (LA). The DfE have confirmed that this arrangement will continue for financial year 2022/23.

1.2 The funding is automatically delegated to Academies who can choose to access some of the services by purchasing from East Sussex Services to Schools or source services from other providers.

1.3 The services to be considered for de-delegation in 2022/23 are shown below and Schools Forum can agree to de-delegate a service in 2022/23 where it chose not to in 2021/22.

- contingencies
- behaviour support services (please see appendix B)
- Support for minority ethnic pupils
- administration of free school meals
- jury service and union business

1.4 For 2021/22, the following decisions were agreed at schools forum on de-delegated services.

	PRIMARY	SECONDARY
	De-delegated in 2021/22	De-delegated in 2021/22
Contingency	Yes	Yes
Behaviour support services	Yes	No
<i>Support for minority ethnic pupils*</i>	Yes	No
Free meal eligibility	Yes	Yes
Jury service and union business	Yes	Yes

- subject to a 2-year commitment in 2020/21

1.5 Only members of the Schools Forum representing maintained primary and secondary

schools are entitled to vote on the 2022/23 proposals. In accordance with regulations, representatives of each phase will vote separately, however it is possible that a decision not to de-delegate in one phase may affect the viability of provision overall and the withdrawal of the service for all phases.

2. The Services

2.1 Descriptions of the services which can be provided centrally to maintained schools are set out below in Appendix A and B.

2.2 The De-delegated funding for 2021/22 to schools and academies for these services is summarised in Appendix C.

2.3 The calculation of amounts to be de-delegated from each school must be linked to factors within the funding formula. The calculations applied in 2021/22 were calculated using the following basis:

De-delegated Heading	Formula Factor
Contingency	Per Pupil Amount
Behaviour Support Services	20% Per Pupil Amount 11% Free School Meals 22% Free School Meal Ever6 22% IDACI 25% Prior Attainment
Free meal eligibility	Free School Meal Numbers
Support for Ethnic Minority Pupils	50% Per Pupil 50% Per EAL Pupil
Jury service and union duties	Per Pupil Amount

3 Recommendations

3.1 The Maintained Primary and Secondary representatives on the Schools Forum are recommended to agree the services to be de-delegated in 2022/23.

Alison Jeffery

Director Childrens Services

Contact Officer: Sarah Rice
Tel. No. 01273 482547
Email: Sarah.Rice@eastsussex.gov.uk

The framework for de-delegated budgets is set within the principles of shared responsibility between schools for all children and mutual support across all schools. The model allows for all maintained schools to have certainty of access to support at the point of need from services that continue to operate and provide support in a well managed and cost effective way.

Contingencies

Contingencies can be held for a limited range of circumstances

- Exceptional unforeseen costs which it would be unreasonable to expect governing bodies to plan for
- Schools in financial difficulties
- Additional costs relating to new, re-organised and closing schools
- Managing extra ordinary personnel matters

It is recommended that maintained schools continue to fund a contingency which will be administered by the Local Authority for the approved purposes.

If schools decide not to have a central contingency, they will need to ensure that all schools are able to make any extraordinary payments this can put significant additional strain on individual school budget shares.

Administration of Free School Meals

The County Council's free school meals service enables schools to meet legal requirements relating to the provision of free school meals without the administrative burden.

The free school meals service is located within the Admissions and Transport Team and as a Local Authority, we have direct links with Government Departments (DfE and DWP). This enables us to determine eligibility for free school meals with one short telephone call from schools with the vast majority of individual applications only taking 30 seconds to process. Individual schools do not have access to the checking service meaning eligibility would need to be carried out at school level as a paper exercise.

We are able to give guidance on all aspects of eligibility and provide accurate data to support schools. Weekly changes are reported to schools securely and full entitlement reports are sent to individual schools. We will ensure that free schools meals data is accurate for the census returns.

NB Academies can buy into this service through Services to Schools.

Jury service and union business

This central budget currently pays for supply cover when members of a school's staff undertake Trade Union Duties or Jury Service. The amount each school may have to pay can vary significantly from year to year, whereas across the County the amount is more likely to be relatively stable. The benefit to maintained schools of pooling these budgets is that schools know exactly how much they will pay each year instead of facing the prospect of additional costs which are out of the schools control and which could present a significant budget pressure.

For primary schools, this budget also includes the costs of administering the County Funded Supply internal insurance schemes.

EALS and Behavioural Support – For discussions around these areas of de-delegation please see appendix B.

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Appendix B

1 Background

1.1 From April 2014, funding arrangements for centrally held Behaviour Support Services (BSS) and services for pupils with English as an Additional Language (EALS) were placed under the jurisdiction of Schools' Forum to decide whether or not the historic budgets could be pooled by the Local Authority or distributed to maintained schools by formula.

1.2 The framework for de-delegated budgets is set within the principles of shared responsibility between schools for all pupils and mutual support across all schools. The model allows for all schools who de-delegate funding to have certainty of access to support at the point of need from services that continue to operate and provide support in the most cost-effective way.

1.3 ESBAS provides support to all maintained primary schools delivering a range of interventions to support pupils with social, emotional and mental health needs, including those who are at risk of permanent exclusion. Support from ESBAS is bespoke to the needs of the school and pupil and, as well as 1:1 support for children, includes training and expert advice for schools on whole school approaches. As pupils who are at risk of exclusion often present with attendance difficulties, the BSS offer is integrated with the attendance support offer.

1.4 Schools have a statutory duty to provide for pupils with EAL on their roll and funding is delegated within their individual budgets for this purpose. EAL is not a special educational need and pupils with EAL are able to achieve very well if effective support is in place for them. This includes support from staff who have a good understanding of their mother tongue and are able to build links with families who do not speak English as a first language. The EAL service offers a range of support for pupils and schools (1:1 support and training) as well as a translation service and support for pupils to take examinations in their mother tongue.

2 Behaviour Support Services

2.1 Resources for primary maintained schools are managed according to a published formula. Appendix A outlines the agreed allocation of support to schools and what proportion of the budget is retained for high-level behaviour referrals through the ISEND Front Door. The central tenet of this proposal is securing a balance between ensuring support is available for schools at a time they need it and an allocation of resource to all schools, thereby allowing for a more equitable distribution of support and options for schools to have greater flexibility and control over the support they receive.

2.2 This system for allocating support was originally implemented at the beginning of term 6, 2013 and has been in operation since then. This system ensures that resources are available for small schools who do not have high levels of deprivation but occasionally require access to specialist support for behaviour.

2.3 *Implications for Cessation of De-Delegated Primary Behaviour Support Services:*

- ESBAS capacity would be significantly reduced and the service could only focus on statutory work (i.e. permanently excluded pupils). ESBAS provision could not be reinstated at a later stage.

- No early intervention service would be provided; this would include the attendance offer as well as the behaviour offer. The Local Authority would lower the threshold for core attendance support, and this would continue to reduce over time.
- The number of pupils requiring support in the secondary phase could increase as their barriers to learning support may not have been addressed in a timely and robust manner in the primary phase.
- A potential increase in the demand for special school provision in both primary and secondary phases.
- A potential increase in permanent exclusions, breakdown of placements of pupils with EHCPs, and a related increase in the number of pupils that schools have to reintegrate mid-year from other schools.
- A potential deterioration of attendance.
- Further pressure on High Needs Block funding and in turn funding available for schools.

2.4 The overall impact would increase the challenge for schools, potentially creating additional budget pressures to fund more specialist provision. Outcomes for pupils in East Sussex could decline.

3 English as an Additional Language Service

3.1 From April 2014 until 2019, units were allocated to schools based on the number of EAL pupils who have been in the education system in the UK for less than 3 years. This system weighted support towards newly arrived pupils who generally have lower levels of English and the greatest need for support.

3.2 Following extensive consultation with schools in 2019, the service made a new offer of EAL support based on schools/academies contributing either 25% or 100% of their de-delegated amount. This provided two levels of access to the service and was the preferred model for the majority of schools, academies, as well as unions and staff.

3.3 Schools' Forum agreed at the meeting in May 2021 that model ('Model 2') would be adopted for all future buy in to the EALS service. This model enables schools/academies to contribute either 25% or 100% of their de-delegation amount (the options from the model which has run successfully for the last two years), but there is now also a subscription option.

3.4 To deliver this model, which can be seen in Appendix B, the Local Authority requires a commitment from schools equating to a total of £407,447 a year for two years, from 1 April 2022. This is the absolute minimum required to retain enough staff to cover the full range of interventions within the offer and meet the needs of all schools across all locations in the county. If schools and academies decide not to provide the required level of funding, the EAL service will cease on 31 March 2022. In these circumstances from 1st April 2022 schools/academies would need to make their own arrangements for discharging their duties for pupils with EAL on their roll.

3.5 The table below shows the implications for different levels of buy-in by schools/academies in terms of overall income for the service. You will note that should all schools opt for a 25% contribution, or for a subscription, then the income will not meet the required minimum of £407,447 and the service will cease.

Model 2:

Funding Level	25%	100%
Maintained Primary	984,009	393,599
Maintained Secondary	26,201	104,803
Academy Primary	85,076	340,303
Academy Secondary	75,445	301,782
Total	285,122	1,140,487

3.6 Schools' Forum representatives are asked to vote on the option to de-delegate EAL funding from all maintained schools, collectively, at 100%. If both primary and secondary maintained schools vote to de-delegate 100% of the de-delegated amount, then there will be sufficient resources to guarantee the service until 31 March 2024.

3.7 In the event that either primary or secondary schools do not agree to de-delegate funding collectively at Schools' Forum, then schools and academies will be asked if they wish to make a commitment from their de-delegated amount from the 1 April 2022 (for a period of 2 years). The decision as to whether the service is maintained or ceased would be based on these returns.

3.8 Due to the complexity of the consultation process, the decision to fund will be on a two-year cycle. An EAL service will only be available to schools/academies who make an up-front commitment to the service; there will be no in-year opportunities to buy in support at a later date.

3.9 *Implications for Cessation of De-Delegated English as an Additional Language Service*

- EALS would not be financially viable and would close. This decision will not be reversible at a later stage.
- Schools would not be able to access the full range of services currently provided by EALS in the private sector; there are some translation services available but they are more expensive than EALS.
- Schools who currently receive a high level of support would experience a significant reduction in support.
- Support for unaccompanied asylum-seekers who are placed at schools near to available foster placements would cease.
- Mother tongue examinations would not be supported and would be the sole responsibility of schools.
- A likely impact includes a significant rise in the numbers of pupils requiring support in the secondary phase as their barriers to learning will not have been addressed in a timely and robust manner in the primary phase.
- The KS2 and GCSE outcomes for EAL pupils are highly likely to be detrimentally impacted.

4 Conclusions

4.1 Improved attendance and high standards of behaviours are key to improving standards. While there is some evidence of progress, East Sussex continues to under-perform when compared to national and statistical neighbours in relation to both attendance and exclusions. Developing and sustaining consistent, effective inclusive practice across all schools must be a priority.

4.2 There is evidence that where schools have assumed financial responsibility for behaviour support there has been no correlating improvement in pupil behaviour or school performance. Indeed, the evidence suggests that schools delay early intervention because appropriate support is more costly or difficult to access and later remedies to address the problems are less effective and much more costly for pupils and schools. Where pupils are permanently excluded, the burden falls on all schools to fund and provide ongoing support and places for pupils in special schools or Independent Non-Maintained Schools (INMS).

4.3 In light of the rising demand for high-cost provision for pupils who are permanently excluded in secondary schools, consideration should be given to re-establishing a de-delegation of funding for Behaviour Support Services across this sector and other approaches to ensuring consistent effective inclusive practice.

4.4 The continued use of the model for EALS is a fair and transparent model, representative of schools and academies who responded to the consultation in 2019. This model allows for the continuation of support whilst increasing the flexibility of the offer.

5 Recommendations

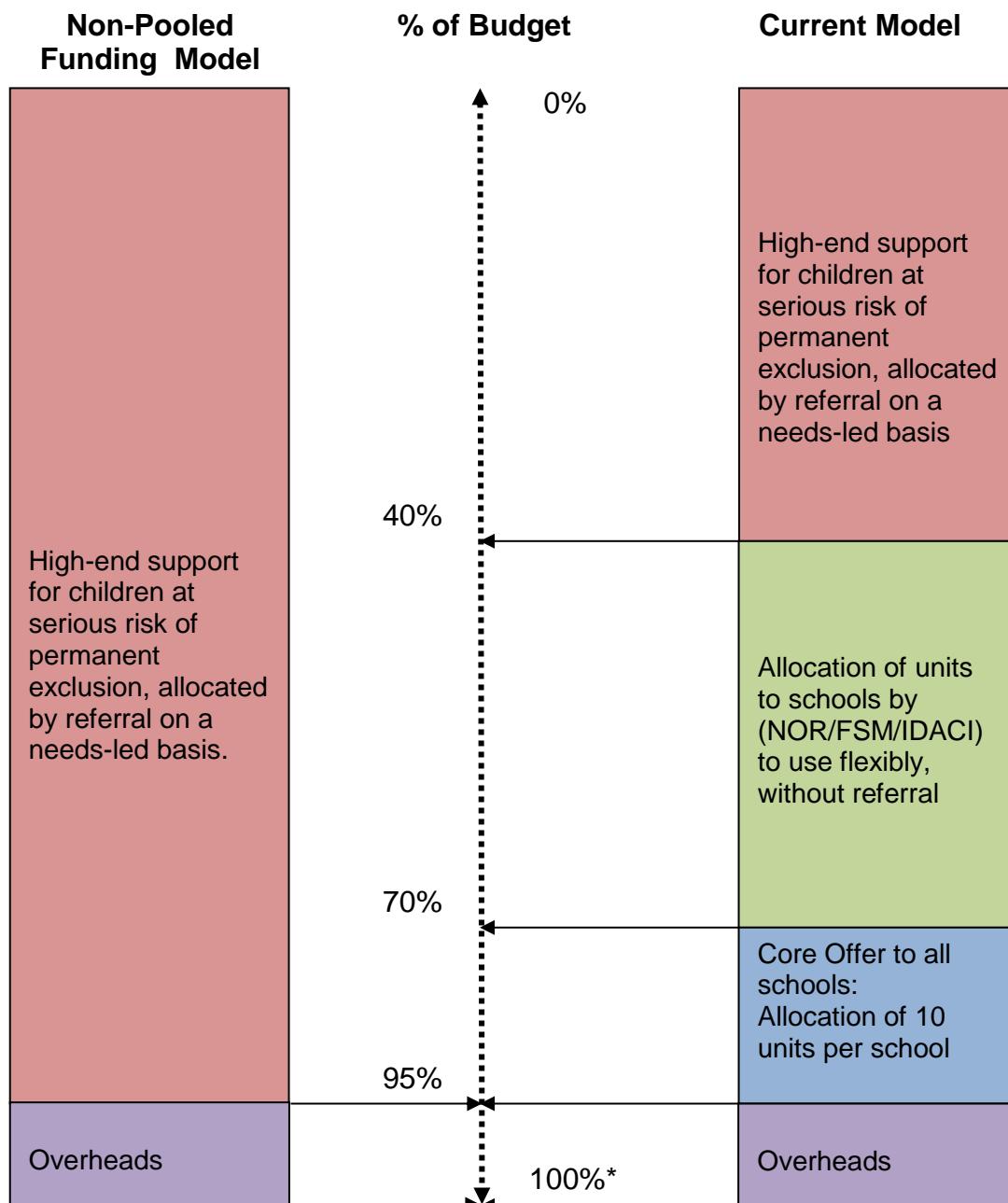
5.1 This paper sets out the rationale for continued de-delegation of primary behaviour support service and EALS, and for restoring de-delegated budgets from secondary schools for those services. The implications of any cessation of provision should be considered carefully in light of the likely impact across all schools.

5.2 Schools' Forum is, therefore recommended to:

- 5.2.1 Continue de-delegated budgets for primary BSS for 2022/23
- 5.2.2 Consider restoring de-delegated budgets for secondary BSS for 2022/23
- 5.2.3 Continue de-delegated budgets for primary EALS for 2022-24 at 100%
- 5.2.4 Consider restoring de-delegated budgets for secondary EALS for 2022-24 at 100%

Beth Armstrong
Deputy Head of ISEND

Appendix A
Behaviour Support to Schools:
Allocation of Pooled Budget



*This can be 'topped up' by individual schools by purchasing additional units from the Services to Schools offer.

Appendix B

Model 2 100% /25% model (with option of subscription)

Overview

In this model schools can opt for the full service, contributing 100% of their allocated EAL funding, with a two-year commitment.

All schools have access to the services listed in the offer outlined below and in addition schools experiencing higher levels of need at any time due to large numbers of new arrivals or pupils/families with higher levels of need will be given priority for extra support, within the County need and Service capacity.

For schools opting for the advisory level contribute 25% of school EAL allocation, all schools have access to the advisory services listed below. There is no direct teaching or BSO support included in the 25% model. Schools may request teacher or BSO interventions and the service would endeavour to source teachers and BSOs as required for purchase.

It is therefore recommended that Model 2 is the one the LA adopts for non-delegated access to the EAL Service during the period April 2022-2024. It is requested that schools forum ratify this recommendation. 8. The preference remains for schools to commit 100% or 25% of their EAL funding to secure the required level of funding to run the service and provide the opportunity for further trading with schools

The offer

	Advisory service 25%	Full service 100%
Access to a selection of advice, guidance and model policy documents on czone	✓	✓
Termly EALS newsletter	✓	✓
Advisory meetings/email advice for school staff	✓	✓
Central or bespoke in-school training for individual schools or clusters	✓	✓
Initial Assessments of pupils, including recommendations and advice	✓	✓
Classroom observations	✓	✓
New Referrals package for all new referrals (including, as appropriate) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initial Assessment including classroom observation - Mother Tongue Assessment and parent interview - Recommendations and advice on strategies - Bespoke 6-8 week intervention delivered by teachers and/or BSOs - Review of progress and Access to a further 6-8 week interventions as agreed - Bilingual support for home school liaison 		✓
Transition interventions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EAL friendly Pupil Voice - Additional visits with BSO if appropriate - Parent meetings - Briefing for transition lead 		✓
Parental engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BSOs available for translation and interpreting e.g translation of letters, phone calls home 		✓
Mentoring for TAs and EAL Coordinators		✓

BSOs for Translating and interpreting		✓
Training and monitoring for EAL leads Coordinators		✓
Access to EALS programmes, e.g. Pupil and Parent Ambassador programmes, Early Days programmes, Secondary development programme, EAL register		✓
Mother Tongue exam package <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identification of candidates through assessment of speaking, listening, reading and writing - Direct teaching up to 6 session informed by gap analysis - Mock and feedback - Three sessions for the speaking exam: familiarisation, mock and actual exam. 		✓
Twice yearly planning and Review meetings with EAL Lead in school <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analysis of EAL register - Progress of supported pupils - Requests for CPD - Feedback and evaluation of service - Agree priorities 		✓
Pupil Ambassador programme for primary schools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training for Lead on setting up package - Guidance on Ambassador-partner sessions 		✓
Support for EAL CYP with additional needs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support with assessing additional needs - BSO supporting with safeguarding concerns 		✓
Additional interventions on a traded basis	£200 per half day £38/hr Where available	£65/hr £25/hr
Teacher		
BSO		

* There is no direct teaching or BSO input included in the 25% model. The service would endeavour to source teachers and BSOs as required for purchase, however this would be additional to the contract and there would be some risk as to whether this capacity could be sourced. Lack of delivery of teaching or BSO support would not mean that the contract for the other provision outlined above has not been fulfilled.

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**Summary of De-delegation Amounts
(Alphabetical Order and By Phase)**

Appendix C

School	Contingency (100% per pupil) £	Behaviour support service (20% per pupil) (11% per fsm) (22% per fsm Ever 6) (22% per IDACI) (25% prior Att) £	** Ethnic minority and bi-lingual (50% per pupil) (50% per EAL) £	Free meal eligibility (100% per fsm) £	Jury Service & union duties supply cover (100% per pupil) £	Total £
Alfriston School	1119	852	881	16	207	3075
All Saints' and St Richard's Church of England Primary School	1063	1032	1654	60	197	4007
All Saints Church of England Primary School, Bexhill	2315	4701	2869	365	429	10679
Ashdown Primary School	4752	3662	4522	84	881	13900
Barcombe Church of England Primary School	1451	1068	1142	60	269	3990
Battle and Langton Church of England Primary School	4519	4392	5107	297	838	15153
Beckley Church of England Primary School	964	705	758	36	179	2642
Blackboys Church of England Primary School	1385	874	1352	36	257	3903
Bodiam Church of England Primary School	964	816	1015	36	179	3009
Bonners CofE School	1296	1298	1555	116	240	4506
Bourne Primary School	4697	8799	28542	526	871	43434
Brede Primary School	1307	1564	1278	92	242	4484
Burwash CofE School	1861	1744	1714	88	345	5752
Buxted CofE Primary School	2082	1456	1639	52	386	5615
Catsfield Church of England Primary School	1108	966	872	52	205	3203
Chailey St Peter's Church of England Primary School	1506	1580	1186	124	279	4676
Chantry Community Primary School	2315	3510	2345	221	429	8820
Chiddingly Primary School	1030	1070	811	76	191	3178
Chyngton School	4398	5345	4732	361	815	15651
Cradle Hill Community Primary School	6558	6625	6747	277	1215	21422
Cross-in-Hand Church of England Primary School	4076	3720	4012	209	756	12772
Crowhurst CofE Primary School	1152	1087	907	56	214	3415
Dallington Church of England Primary School	1207	821	950	32	224	3235
Danehill Church of England Primary School	820	642	645	20	152	2279
Denton Community Primary School and Nursery	2625	3539	3093	205	487	9948
Ditchling (St Margaret's) Church of England Primary School	1828	892	2918	12	339	5988
East Hoathly CofE Primary School	1074	843	1369	28	199	3514
Etchingham Church of England Primary School	1185	798	933	36	220	3172
Firle Church of England Primary School	742	794	1311	24	138	3009
Five Ashes CofE Primary School	676	527	772	36	125	2135
Fletching Church of England Primary School	886	928	697	52	164	2728
Forest Row Church of England Primary School	1828	1610	1685	112	339	5574
Framfield Church of England Primary School	1041	635	819	12	193	2701
Frant Church of England Primary School	1086	744	854	20	201	2905
Groombridge St Thomas' Church of England Primary School	2215	1377	1744	12	411	5759
Grovelands Community Primary School	7045	9178	8649	542	1306	26719
Guestling Bradshaw Church of England Primary School	2326	3291	2602	152	431	8803
Hamsey Community Primary School	1152	1168	1163	68	214	3765
Hankham Primary School	1462	1598	1929	72	271	5333
Harbour Primary and Nursery School	4663	8386	8636	542	864	23091
Harlands Primary School	2182	1480	3039	64	404	7170
Hellingly Community Primary School	2481	2335	1953	104	460	7333
Herstmonceux Church of England Primary School	2304	2114	2337	140	427	7322
High Hurstwood Church of England Primary School	1152	718	1430	32	214	3546
Holy Cross Church of England Primary School	875	1456	965	120	162	3579
Hurst Green Church of England Primary School and Nursery	1340	1131	1055	48	248	3823
Icklesham Church of England Primary School	1329	1801	1046	104	246	4527
Iford and Kingston Church of England Primary School	1961	1684	1794	52	363	5855
Laughton Community Primary School	1130	1032	889	32	209	3293
Little Common School	6591	6157	5715	293	1222	19978
Little Horsted Church of England Primary School	1074	683	846	28	199	2831
Manor Primary School	4254	3962	5428	233	788	14664
Mark Cross Church of England Aided Primary School	1097	704	1121	32	203	3157
Mayfield Church of England Primary School	1750	1185	2434	44	324	5738
Maynards Green Community Primary School	2404	1486	2932	80	446	7348
Meridian Community Primary School and Nursery	4542	6431	6725	373	842	18912
Motcombe Infants' School	3345	4085	15480	253	620	23784
Netherfield CofE Primary School	1650	1445	1817	60	306	5278
Newick Church of England Primary School	2359	1338	2889	56	437	7080
Ninfield Church of England Primary School	1794	1432	1412	64	333	5036
Northiam Church of England Primary School	975	1100	767	92	181	3115
Nutley Church of England Primary School	1008	724	1273	36	187	3228
Park Mead Primary School	1207	1304	1470	76	224	4281
Parkside Community Primary School	2304	1582	2861	72	427	7247
Pashley Down Infant School	2947	3522	9055	249	546	16318
Peacehaven Heights Primary School	4287	6976	10005	437	795	22500
Peasmash Church of England Primary School	1108	1412	872	92	205	3689
Pevensey and Westham CofE Primary School	4586	4496	4391	237	850	14560
Plumpton Primary School	1296	959	1020	32	240	3547
Polegate Primary School	6281	8178	6275	377	1164	22275
Punnett's Town Community Primary School	1285	738	1011	8	238	3281
Ringmer Primary and Nursery School	3268	2602	3096	161	606	9733
Rocks Park Primary School	2326	2036	2615	72	431	7481

School	Contingency (100% per pupil) £	Behaviour support service (20% per pupil) (11% per fsm) (22% per fsm Ever 6) (22% per IDACI) (25% prior Att) £	** Ethnic minority and bi-lingual (50% per pupil) (50% per EAL) £	Free meal eligibility (100% per fsm) £	Jury Service & union duties supply cover (100% per pupil)	Total £
Rotherfield Primary School	2315	1955	1822	56	429	6578
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Hastings	2636	3503	6158	144	489	12931
Salehurst Church of England Primary School	2116	1950	1908	100	392	6466
Sandown Primary School and Nursery	5273	11440	5685	867	977	24242
Seaford Primary School	4951	4751	8039	217	918	18875
South Malling CofE Primary and Nursery School	2437	2536	2176	185	452	7785
Southover CofE Primary School	3833	3425	5077	173	710	13218
St Andrew's Church of England Infants School	2902	3961	8733	245	538	16379
St John's Church of England Primary School	2260	1426	1778	24	419	5907
St Mark's Church of England Primary School	1086	926	854	36	201	3103
St Mary Magdalene Catholic Primary School	2304	2357	5199	60	427	10347
St Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School	2304	3362	12813	165	427	19071
St Mary the Virgin Church of England Primary School	1019	783	802	16	189	2809
St Marys Catholic Primary School	2404	1940	3972	56	446	8818
St Michael's Church of England Primary School	1174	1413	924	72	218	3801
St Michael's Primary School	986	593	776	16	183	2554
St Pancras Catholic Primary School	1484	2021	3012	144	275	6937
St Peter and St Paul CofE Primary School	4619	6250	9133	317	856	21175
St Philip's Catholic Primary School	2127	1843	4596	104	394	9064
St Thomas A Becket Catholic Primary School	5162	6067	23146	197	957	35528
St Thomas' Church of England Aided Primary School	1495	1876	1694	108	277	5452
Staplecross Methodist Primary School	1108	999	872	56	205	3240
Stone Cross School	4675	4651	4724	257	866	15173
Stonegate Church of England Primary School	1152	677	1169	20	214	3231
Telscombe Cliffs Primary School and Nursery	6635	6834	12302	277	1230	27277
The Haven Voluntary Aided CofE/Methodist Primary School	4763	6246	7916	361	883	20169
Ticehurst and Flimwell Church of England Primary School	1185	1434	933	132	220	3905
Tollgate Community Junior School	4597	6685	6531	405	852	19071
Wadhurst CofE Primary School	2736	2101	3411	100	507	8856
Wallands Community Primary School	3057	4464	4362	249	567	12699
West Rise Community Infant School	2969	4656	5356	269	550	13800
West Rise Junior School	3977	6576	3578	397	737	15265
Western Road Community Primary School	2304	1476	2334	32	427	6573
Westfield School	2293	3232	2061	161	425	8171
Willingdon Primary School	4974	4443	5466	189	922	15994
Wivelsfield Primary School	2359	1632	1857	56	437	6342
Chailey School	12361	8709	9734	525	107	31436
Claverham Community College	18051	18263	10906	1316	157	48694
Heathfield Community College	19110	14806	17367	870	166	52320
Priory School	17862	17659	15701	1261	155	52639
Robertsbridge Community College	11539	12206	6346	854	100	31045
St Richard's Catholic College	16344	17561	11925	799	142	46771
Uckfield College	20738	16341	17301	1011	180	55571
Uplands Community College	10559	8614	6786	705	92	26755
Willingdon Community School	15886	15758	8736	815	138	41333
Primary Total	267944	293411	393599	15642	49663	1020259
Secondary Total	142449	129916	104803	8156	1238	386563
Total	410393	423327	498402	23798	50901	1406822

Unit rates for allocations

Primary total pupils	11.08	2.81	8.72	2.05
Primary total FSM	7.40		4.01	
Primary total FSM Ever 6	13.81			
Primary total IDACI total units	7.33			
Primary total Prior Attainment	14.99			
Primary total EALs		224.12		
Secondary total pupils	15.81	3.98	8.69	0.14
Secondary total FSM	12.07		7.83	
Secondary total FSM Ever 6	18.05			
Secondary total IDACI total units	10.80			
Secondary total Prior Attainment	21.28			
Secondary total EALs		978.83		

**Please note that the de-delegation amount shown in the Ethnic Minority and bi-lingual column represents 100% "charge".

Report to:	East Sussex Schools Forum
Date of meeting:	17 September 2021
Report By:	Chief Finance Officer
Title:	Schools Insurance issues (Maintained schools only)
Purpose:	To compare the East Sussex County Council Schools' insurance programme against the Risk Protection Agreement offer and make recommendations for 2022/23.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that ESCC Maintained schools note the insurance charge for 2021 / 2022 and the ESCC Insurance programme for 2022 / 23.

1 Background

1.1 ESCC Maintained schools currently benefit from a comprehensive Insurance programme, arranged and managed by the Orbis Insurance team. This program is a mix of school specific insurances and relevant corporate insurances, and includes both externally and self-insured elements.

1.2 The 'Risk Protection Arrangement' (RPA) is an alternative 'insurance like' arrangement, provided and financed directly by the DfE, originally set up to provide cost effective insurance exclusively for academy schools. Since 2020 this has also been made available to all Local Authority Maintained schools, including those currently insured via Local Authority insurance programmes.

1.3 Schools can opt to join the RPA on an individual basis or collectively, by agreeing through Schools Forum to de-delegate appropriate funding.

1.4 At Schools Forum in November 2020, it was agreed that a paper would be presented to Schools Forum in September 2021, with an Insurance update and indication of insurance charges for schools for 2021 / 2022.

2 Supporting information

2.1 Full details of the cover offered by the RPA can be found on the DfE website. The cover offered is similar to the ESCC insurance programme, but there are some significant differences and omissions.

2.2 The table below compares the current ESCC insurance arrangements and requirements, against the RPA offer:

	POLICY	ESCC	RPA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insurance required by ESCC to protect its assets and potential liabilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property & Contents Material Damage 	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional Expenditure / Business Interruption 	Yes	Yes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract building works in progress 	Yes	Yes

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Larger project building works in progress Public Liability Deterioration of Food Stock Employers Liability Professional Indemnity Governor's /Officials Liability Libel & Slander Third Party Liability Top Up cover Third Party Hirers Liability All Risks cover for high value assets Personal Accident for Pupils/Staff/Governors/Volunteers Supporting pupils with medical conditions liability. UK & Overseas School Travel Motor Motor Uninsured Loss Recovery Money Crime / Fidelity Guarantee cover Statutory Engineering Inspection & Associated Insurance 	Yes	No
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Free access to Safer Schools safeguarding app and training. 	Yes	No

3. Cost and service.

3.1 The RPA 'premium' charge is a flat 'per pupil' annual rate, which will apply equally to secondary, primary and special schools. The rate for 2021/22 is **£19.00pp** and this will be subject to review every 2 years.

3.2 For ESCC schools that opt into the RPA, an additional 'retention premium' of **£2.50pp** will need to be applied by ESCC. This will cover the additional required insurances currently not included in the RPA offer and the cost of residual liabilities, where the RPA cover does not respond. The total cost for schools who wish to join the RPA is therefore **£21.50pp**.

3.3 In order to enable schools to compare the ESCC programme and the RPA, the ESCC insurance programme will be charged on a per pupil basis. The rate for 2021/22 has, therefore, been limited to **£21.50pp**. For most schools this will represent a further saving on insurance costs, and include the savings produced by the 2020 Insurance retender exercise and the incorporation of the Schools 'Optional Additional Insurance' in the main insurance charge (having previously been separately charged). This cost also includes the full professional advice and claims handling service provided by the ESCC / Orbis Insurance team based on extensive local knowledge and expertise.

3.4 Due to the slightly different insurance arrangements for Catholic Diocese schools, where only contents insurance is required, the ESCC charge for these will be £15.00 per pupil.

3.5 For schools who opt to join the RPA, they will only have access to a basic advice service from the ESCC / Orbis Insurance team. All enquires relating to policy coverage and all claims handling will be undertaken by the RPA's own insurance advisors and claims handling contractors.

4. Future review

4.1 The RPA has advised that the current rate will be held for 2022/23. ESCC is unable to confirm the rate for its insurance program since external premiums are not confirmed until February 2022. However, ESCC remains committed to providing a per pupil rate which is competitive with the RPA. The ESCC per pupil rate and RPA retention premium will be reviewed on an annual basis.

4.2 ESCC's insurers have confirmed that they will not provide pro rata return premiums where schools opt out of the ESCC program to join the RPA mid-year. Therefore, schools are required to inform the Orbis Insurance team by the end of January if they intend to join the RPA for the following financial year (from 1st April). It is appreciated that this deadline is before ESCC will be able to confirm the per pupil rate for that year. However, ESCC remain committed to providing a competitive alternative to the RPA, with the aim that all ESCC maintained schools remain within the ESCC schools' insurance programme.

4.3 There is currently no stated mechanism for schools to leave the RPA once they have joined. The RPA is not set up to provide the schools with a choice of insurance arrangements, and, unlike the ESCC programme, is not subject to competitive tendering. If schools do return to the ESCC programme, having previously left to join the RPA, there is no guarantee that competitive rates can be maintained.

4.4 Should a significant number of ESCC schools opt to join the RPA, there is also no guarantee that the ESCC schools' insurance program will remain competitive or sustainable.

5. Conclusion and reason for recommendation

5.1 There is currently no financial benefit to schools opting to join the RPA. However, since the 'per pupil' rates offered by both the ESCC Schools insurance programme and the RPA are subject to change over time, this situation will be reviewed on an annual basis for the duration of ESCC's existing Long Term Agreements with Insurance companies. While premium rates will vary, we will only report back to Schools Forum if there is a significant, material change, with ESCC rates being advised in the usual way through the Services to Schools process.

5.2 The per pupil rate for the ESCC Insurance programme is not intended to match the RPA charge and is unlikely to in future. However, the ESCC program currently offers schools a wider ranging and more comprehensive service, at a cost effective rate.

5.3 It is recommended that schools remain within the ESCC Insurance programme for 2022 / 2023 and do not opt to join the RPA scheme from April 2022, either collectively or on an individual basis. There is currently no financial benefit to joining the RPA and schools will lose the benefit of the locally based advice and claims handling service.

5.4 **Note:** Unfortunately, ESCC is unable to extend its existing insurance program to cover Academy schools. Therefore, when a maintained school transfers to academy status, they are required to make their own insurance arrangements, either via the RPA or the commercial insurance market.

Ian Gutsell
Chief Finance Officer

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Report to: Schools Forum

Date of meeting: 17 Sept 2021

Report By: Ed Beale

Title: School Forum Meeting Dates for the financial year 2022/23

Purpose: To provide information on School Forum meeting dates for the 2022/23 financial year

RECOMMENDATION:

Schools Forum are asked to note the School Forum meeting dates for the financial year 2022/23.

1 Currently confirmed dates

- Friday 19 November 2021
- Friday 14 January 2022

2 Future meeting dates

- Friday 13 May 2022
- Friday 1 July 2022
- Friday 16 September 2022
- Friday 18 November 2022
- Friday 13 January 2023

All meetings will run from 08.30 to 10.30 am and held either remotely, or at the following venue:

Wellshurst Golf and Country Club,
North Street,
Hellingly,
East Sussex,
BN27 4EE

Tel: 01435 813636

Email: info@wellshurst.com

Alison Jeffery

Director Childrens Services

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