

REPORT TO: School Forum

DATE: 19th March 2013

REPORTING OFFICER: Senior Finance Officer

SUBJECT: School Funding Reform – Early Years
2013-14

WARDS: Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To inform School Forum of the Early Years proposals for 2013-14.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- (1) That School Forum agrees the mapping of current funding factors to the most appropriate funding factor**
- (2) That School Forum agrees that funding is kept as much as possible within each funding factor**
- (3) That School Forum agree the use of a Lump Sum funding factor for the Maintained Sector Nursery Schools and Nursery Units**
- (4) That School Forum agree that the Lump Sum funding factor will not be used for the Private, Voluntary and Independent Sector**
- (5) That School Forum agrees to fund the previously agreed Private Finance Initiative costs at The Grange.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 As reported to the last School Forum consultation events took place on 5th and 7th February with representatives from maintained nursery schools/units and the private, voluntary and independent sector providers.
- 3.2 For the maintained sector the results of the consultation showed support for the proposed funding factors of Basic Per Pupil, Deprivation, Lump Sum and Local Authority Rates.
- 3.3 The nursery schools were given a number of options regarding a cash balance to be allocated through a funding factor. All three nursery schools opted for the cash balance to be allocated through the Basic Per Pupil element and this has been adjusted accordingly.
- 3.4 Appendix A details the proposed funding formula with cash values for the maintained nursery schools and nursery units plus the indicative budgets for 2013-14 should such proposals be agreed by School Forum.

- 3.5 The Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) sector consultation results again showed support for the proposed funding factors of Basic Per Pupil, Deprivation and Local Authority Rates.
- 3.6 Within the PVI sector the use of a lump sum caused increased turbulence of funding between providers. By modelling various options we were able to prove that the lowest level of turbulence was provided by not using the lump sum factor but by allocating that cash funding through the Basic Per Pupil factor.
- 3.7 Headcount figures for the PVI sector were received at the end of February and their indicative budgets will be calculated.

4.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
School Funding Reform: Arrangements for 2013-14	Kingsway House	Anne Jones