

Schools Funding Formula Review group

Terms of Reference

1. Purpose of the Task Group

The Department for Education (DFE) introduced a new national funding formula for schools at the start of April 2018. They gave Local Authorities the choice either to move to the national funding straight away or to continue to use their own formula for the financial years 2018-19 and 2019-20. This group will look at the transition from the current Southwark Funding formula into the national funding formula and the changes they wish to see for the coming financial year.

2. Objectives of task group

- To consider whether Southwark moves straight to the national funding formula next year.
- To consider the balance of funding between Primary and Secondary
- To consider the level of the lump sum
- To consider the level of split sites funding
- To consult with schools
- Secure the support of the Schools Forum for its proposals

3 . Membership

Headteachers (to be representatives from the Schools Forum and including at least one academy representative)

- 3 representatives of primary school headteachers, one from a 1 form entry school, one from a 2 form entry and one from a three form entry
- 1 representative of secondary school headteachers, one representative to be from a school with a resource base, the other to come from a school with a high proportion of pupils with ECHP.

School Business Managers

- 3 representatives of primary school headteachers, one from a 1 form entry school, one from a 2 form entry and one from a three form entry
- 1 representative of secondary school headteachers, one representative to be from a school with a resource base, the other to come from a school with a high proportion of pupils with ECHP.

4. Local Authority Officers

The group will be led by the Schools Finance Manager

Other officers of the authority will be in attendance as and when required.

Officers will be available to assist the group with research.

5. Chairing Meetings

An Officer will chair the meeting

6. Conduct and frequency of meetings

The group will meet as appropriate, the first meeting will be to scope its programme of work, look at the current formula and some initial models. It is anticipated it will then need to meet monthly. The group will wish to arrive at decisions by consensus; where this is not possible the paper to the Schools Forum will record the differing views.

7. Timescales

The group will complete the work by the 15 November 2018

8. Required Outcomes

A report with a proposal on how the funding formula will operate in Southwark from April 2019.