

**Minutes of:                   JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE WITH  
TEACHERS**

**Date of Meeting:** 5 February 2013

**Present:                       Representing Bury Council**

Councillors N A Parnell (in the Chair), M A  
James, K Hussain, S Southworth and B Vincent

**Officers in attendance**

Assistant Director of Resource (Finance), Head  
of Financial Services (Children's Services) and  
Head of Personnel Services (Children's Services)

**Representing the Teachers' Side**

H Andrews (NUT)  
A Brooks (ATL)  
K Hopwood (NASUWT)  
J Lund (ATL),  
J Proctor (NASUWT)  
J Woollard (NASUWT)

**Apologies:** Apologies for absence were received from  
Councillors: P Bury, and J S Lewis, M Braidley  
(ASCL) L Grant (NUT), L Shelmerdine (NUT) and  
G Stainthorpe (ATL)

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

In the absence, for the start of the meeting, of the Chair, Jean Lund  
(ATL), it was agreed that Councillor Parnell, Deputy Chair for JCC  
Teachers, would take the Chair for this meeting. Councillor Parnell  
welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked those present to  
introduce themselves.

**JCC.01                   MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

**It was agreed:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 1 November 2012 and  
matters arising from the minutes would be considered at the next  
meeting of JCC Teachers to be held on Thursday 28 February 2013.

**JCC.02                   BUDGET PROPOSALS 2013/2014**

The Assistant Director of Resources (Finance), Steve Kenyon,  
attended the meeting and gave a presentation to the members of the  
Joint Consultative Committee for Teachers, setting out details for  
potential savings 2013/2014 to 2014/2015. An additional report by

Peter Lowe, Head of Financial Services, Children's Services, on the department's financial position had been circulated prior to the meeting and was also presented at the meeting.

Steve Kenyon presented details of the Corporate Budget report to the Teachers' JCC. The report contained the following information:

- There will be two major changes to the local Government finance system taking effect on 1 April 2013 which were:

The localisation of Council Tax support but with a 10% (£1.4m) cut in the Government grant  
The localisation of business rates

- Plan for change 1 was introduced this time last year and plan for change 2 is currently being consulted on. The budget forecast for 2013/14 was for a shortfall of £9m but with various pressures emerging during the current year the target for 2013/14 has been increased to £10.4m and estimates of the impact of the autumn statement has led to an increase in savings for 2014/15 of £2.3m to £7.4m giving a total of £17.8m.
- There is still the desire to protect jobs and front-line services by continuing the drive for efficiencies but this is getting harder.
- The final settlement figures are due on 13 February 2013. There is a new way of distributing resources to be known as SUFA (Start Up Funding Allocation).
- There will be a significant reduction in Government support which is expected to go beyond 2014/15. Bury will fare worse than other authorities and in 2013/14 will lose £34 per head compared to an average of just £28 per head elsewhere.

Councillor Parnell reported that the way Bury was funded was poor and there was a campaign and e-petition on the Council's webpage to be signed towards a fairer settlement for Bury.

- It is clear that despite identifying additional savings of £2.3m for 2014/15 there is likely to be a need for yet more savings to be found.

Peter Lowe then reported on Children's Services financial position and reported that in addition to the significant changes affecting local authority finance there are substantial implications for the financing of Children's Services and its schools and gave the following information:

- **Early Intervention Grant (EIG)** – One of the Department for Education (DFE's) priorities was to include £65m for the free entitlement for 2 year olds in disadvantaged areas. During the last two years this has significantly increased to £295m, while the overall quantum for the EIG has reduced. Another £534m from the EIG has been transferred to the ring-fenced Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) in 2013/14 for the expansion of the 2 year old offer

rising to £760m in 2014/15. Specifically for Bury, the amount being transferred is £1,796,000.

- **Early Intervention Grant and Adoption Reform Grant** – The Government has decided to centrally retain £150m from the EIG. On 24 January 2013 the Government announced that a one year Adoption Reform Grant is being created for 2013/14. £50m will be ring fenced to find more adopters. The remaining £100m will not be ring fenced but LA's will be expected to spend it on supporting adoption reform. Bury's share of this transferred grant has not yet been announced.
- **Education Services Grant replaces Local Authority Central Spend Equivalent Grant (LACSEG)** – The DFE have tried to identify how much LA's spend on their central functions supporting schools, so that an equivalent amount can be taken from LA's to give to academies for their new found responsibilities. For the last two years this has been done by LACSEG.

The newly created Education Services Grant will be distributed to LA's and academies based on £16 per pupil for the central elements that will be retained by the LA and £116 per pupil in academies and schools. No notification of how much Bury's Education Services Grant has yet been received.

- **Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)** – This is a ring fenced grant provided to LA's to be spent on schools and specified areas within the Schools' Block. The 2013/14 pupil funding is £4,821.97 per pupil and this will stay the same for 2014/15.

There are significant increases in the funding responsibilities being included in the 2013/14 DSG:

- Extension of the 2 year old offer
- Funding of Special Education Needs for 16 – 24 year olds in further Education

The 2013/14 DSG is being split into three Sub Blocks:

- Schools
- Early Years
- High Needs

Although the DFE have provided a funding analysis of each of the three Sub Blocks, there is no limit to how much can be allocated to each Block.

- **Pupil Premium Grant** – is additional funding provided by the Government and is currently extra to the DSG. The grant is being increased from £600 per pupil to £900 for each pupil eligible for a free school meal and for looked after children and £300 for each child of armed forces personnel in schools.

- **Total Funding Key Points for Bury Schools in 2013/14:**

- £146m available to Schools, Early Years, High Needs and support services
- £6m higher than 2013/14 funding (4% increase)
- 7 schools out of 77 mainstream schools could be adversely affected by the Schools' Funding Formula changes – this excludes those schools with high falling rolls as their reductions would occur regardless of the changes
- One Primary and one Secondary school face a 1% reduction in their 2013/14 funding compared to 2012/13 levels

- **Schools' Sub-block** – is subject to the National Formula Funding Framework, which is being imposed by the DFE in preparation for a National Funding Formula for allocating money to individual schools and academies throughout England during the life of the next Parliament.

LA's have spent the last few months transforming their current formulae to meet DFE requirements and determining the values for their own formula components. Bury's philosophy has been to minimise the potential losses for every school while maximising funding available for schools.

- **Schools' Funding Formula Key Points:**

- Approximately £108m is being delegated to schools
- 80% of funding is being distributed through the basic entitlement
- 90% of delegated funding is pupil-led
- Under £400,000 was needed for the per pupil Minimum Funding Guarantee
- A capping factor has been applied to 35 Primary schools limiting their budget increase to 6 ½%

- **Early Years Block** - The DFE is clear that the funding for free early education for 3 and 4 year olds, of 15 hours per week, should continue to be delivered through LA's. In 2013/14 this will be expanded to include 2 year olds outside of deprived areas. This includes funding for under 5's in academies.

Bury's Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF) relates directly to the Primary school formula and values, which is based on a deprivation measure for each child rather than the area.

- **High Needs Block – Includes:**

- Pupils aged from birth to 19 with high levels of SEN in LA units, special schools, special academies, special free schools and non-maintained independent special schools.
- Those aged 16-25 with high level learning difficulties or disabilities (LDD) in further education.
- School age pupils in alternative provision such as a Pupil Referral Unit

Bury's approach devised locally has ensured that the 2012/13 SEN funding for those schools with statemented pupils has been maintained by the Bury's 'top-up' arrangements. Two schools with empty places in their SEN units are seeing reductions to their current budgets.

- **Children's Services Financial Position** – Children's Services are part of the Plan for Change arrangements and have had to identify savings for 2013/14 amounting to £2m or 7% of the Department's annual budget. £1m already approved as part of the 2012/13 Plan for Change requirements and £1m for the 2013/14 Plan for Change requirements.

**It was agreed:**

That the Budget Proposals 2013/2014 be noted and Steve Kenyon and Peter Lowe be thanked for their presentations.

**Councillor Parnell  
(CHAIR)**

**(Please note: The meeting started at 6.00 pm and finished at 7.45 pm)**