

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

**Date of Meeting:**   10 February 2022

**Present:**               Councillor T Tariq (in the Chair)  
                  Councillors G McGill, R Bernstein and C Birchmore  
  
                  H Thom – NEU, H Chadwick – NAHT, D Quayle – NASUWT,  
                  A Durack –NASUWT

**Also in attendance:**   Councillor E O'Brien – the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Growth, Sam Evans – Executive Director of Finance, NHS Bury CCG and Bury Council, Steve Goodwin – Head of Strategic Business and Finance, Isobel Booler – Director of Education and Skills, Simon Bagley – Head of Human Resources

**Apologies for Absence:**Councillor T Pickstone, L Shelmerdine – NEU, Jeanette Richards – Executive Director of Children and Young People

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**42                   APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE**

Apologies of absence are listed above.

**43                   DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor McGill declared a personal interest in all matters under consideration in view of his wife holding a role as an NEU Trade Union representative in Rochdale.

Isobel Booler, Director of Education and Skills declared a personal interest in all matters under consideration as a member of NAHT.

**44                   THE COUNCIL'S BUDGET 2022/23 AND THE MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2022/23 - 2025/26**

Councillor Eamonn O'Brien, the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Growth, presented the Council's Budget 2022/23 and the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022/23 – 2025/26 report.

Sam Evan, Executive Director of Finance for the NHS Bury CCG and Bury Council highlighted that in the financial year of 2022/23, the Council can present a balanced budget. There will be challenges in the financial year of 2023/24 as the Council have an additional £9 million of savings to identify. There was a significant amount of the Council's reserves used in the financial year of 2021/22, with a further amount being used in the financial year of 2022/23, due to offsetting the negative Dedicated Schools Grant.

A member of the committee expressed concerns in terms of reducing expenditure around children in care. The report outlines that the Council will be reducing expenditure by reviewing and transferring children from short term independent foster care to Bury foster care placements. It was suggested that moving children

from placements where they are settled, could cause children distress which could incur hidden costs. It was suggested that any placement moves should be managed sensitively.

**It was agreed:**

1. That the report be noted.

**45 THE DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT AND SETTING THE SCHOOLS BUDGET 2022-23**

Councillor Eamonn O'Brien, the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance and Growth, presented the Dedicated Schools Grant and setting the Schools Budget 2022/23 report.

Steve Goodwin, Head of Strategic Business and Finance highlighted that funding for schools has increased for the third year, as a part of the national funding settlement. In December 2021, the Council was notified that the settlement has been further enhanced with £4.2 million additional funding for the Dedicated Schools Grant and £1.5 million additional funding for the High Needs Block. There is an overall increase to the Early Years funding, there has been a significant increase which recognised inflation, which has not been seen in previous settlements. The Early Years hourly rate has increased, although the report shows a reduction in the Early Years funding, which is due to demographics. The Early Years funding is an area of the Dedicated School Grant that can be update within the year as the finances are work out on a termly head count.

Steve Goodwin explained that the Council was awarded £24 million of additional funding to address the central deficit of the High Needs Block, the deficit must be recovered by 2025. A refreshed report addressing the Council's position was sent to the DfE in December 2021. The DfE have now released the Safety Valve money that they were holding back, as they have reassurance with the refreshed report.

There were no questions or comments from members.

**It was agreed:**

1. That the report be noted.
2. Steve Goodwin to continue to provide updates on the Dedicated Schools Grant to the JCC Teachers Committee.

**46 URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business raised at the meeting.

**D Quayle**  
**Chair**

**(Note: The meeting started at 6.00 pm and ended at 6.25 pm)**