



Report to:	SCHOOLS' FORUM
Date:	16 March 2021
Reporting Officer:	Tom Wilkinson – Assistant Director, Finance Tim Bowman – Assistant Director, Education
Subject:	SCHOOLS' FORUM FORWARD PLAN 2021/22
Report Summary:	Provide members of Schools Forum the Forward Plan of reports and meeting deadlines for the Financial Year 2021/22.
Recommendations:	Members of the Schools Forum are requested to vote on the following <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve the proposed meeting dates set out for 2021/22. • Decide if it is appropriate to carry out a review of Schools' Forum during 2021/22.
Corporate Plan:	The Schools' Forum decision-making, supports the Corporate Plan by supporting best use of resources to ensure children have the very best start in life, ensuring children are ready to learn and encouraged to thrive and develop.
Policy Implications:	Overall effective use of resources across Tameside schools is a key component in the Authority's Annual Use of Resources Statement.
Financial Implications: (Authorised by the statutory Section 151 Officer & Chief Finance Officer)	There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report. However, an effective Schools' Forum supports good stewardship and good use of resources.
Legal Implications: (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)	Effective governance requires effective planning.
Risk Management:	There are no direct risk management implications as a result of this report.
Access to Information:	NON-CONFIDENTIAL This report does not contain information, which warrants its consideration in the absence of the Press or members of the public.
Background Information:	The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Christine Mullins  Telephone: 0161 342 3216  e-mail: christine.mullins@tameside.gov.uk

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report outlines the timetable and schedule of meetings and reports to be presented for the upcoming year, forming a forward plan. The plan will enable Forum Members to be kept informed of items to be tabled for consideration.
- 1.2 The meeting dates for the remainder of 2021/22 financial year for forum have now been set and are proposed as outlined below. Setting the annual schedule of dates in advance assists Forum Members with diary planning.

Tuesday 22 June 2021
Tuesday 28 September 2021
Tuesday 23 November 2021
Thursday 13 January 2022

- 1.3 Schools' Forum meetings have moved on-line since the first lockdown and have been held via zoom during 2020/21. Legislation is in place to allow remote meetings of Schools' Forum until 31 March 2021. Members will be updated in relation to any changes to these regulations, should these be extended. Subject to availability, physical meeting spaces will be identified, when government guidelines allow this
- 1.4 Please note, the January meeting is proposed to remain on a Thursday, as per 2020/21. This is to enable the maximum amount of time from the funding announcements, which are expected Christmas week to be worked into a final plan for Forum's consideration. This will enable us to meet the DFE deadlines for the APT submission, which is usually 19 January, with the appropriate political ratification.

2. FORWARD PLAN

- 2.1 The table below summarises the forward plan of reports to be considered at each meeting by Schools Forum.

Forum Meeting	Report	Purpose
June	DSG Outturn 2020/21 and 2021/22 Update	Noting
	Scheme of Financing for Schools	Noting/Approval
	High Needs Update	Noting/Approval
September	Forum Membership	Approval
	Schools Balances Reports 2020/21	Noting
	Schools Financial Values Standard Returns	Noting
	School Funding Update on NFF and Summer Announcements from DFE	Noting
	Consultation of Funding Formula (Schools Block)	Noting
	DSG Monitoring 2021/22 Update	Noting
	Deficit Recovery Plan Update	Noting
November	DSG Monitoring 2021/22 Update	Update
	Outcome of consultation of Funding Formula (Schools Block)	Noting
January	DSG Monitoring 2021/22 Update	Noting
	Formula Funding 2022/23	Approval
	Schools Forum Forward Plan	Noting

2.2 Further reports may be added to the agenda, where Schools' Forum involvement is necessary throughout the year.

2.3 The DfE recommends periodic review of the effectiveness of Schools Forum, and provides a self-assessment tool to support this review, which can be found at the link below. Schools forum are asked to consider if this is something they would like to be built into the work plan for 2021/22.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/647443/Schools_forum_self-assessment_toolkit.odt

3. CONCLUSION

3.1 A forward plan has been outlined for Schools Forum Members to assist the smooth running of the decision-making process, with options to consider the best method for future meetings. Schools' Forum are also asked to consider whether or not a review of the Forum should take place to identify any areas of strength or weaknesses of the Forum.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 As set out at the front of the report.