**School Forum**

**Item 5**

**16th September 2014**

**Funding proposals for a new site Primary School**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Lead Officer** | **Richard Morgan** |
| **Contact details** | **Richard\_morgan@bathnes.gov.uk** **Tel 01225 395220** |
| **Forum asked to decide / steer / be informed** | **To inform the forum of the need to devise a policy in respect of the funding of a new site primary school in B&NES** |
| **Time Needed** |  **15 mins** |

**Introduction**

As part of the new funding reform for schools introduced from 1st April 2013, it is the responsibility of LA’s to fund schools and academies for additional classes for basic need as part of LA planned growth. LA’s are able to retain funding for growth to allocate to schools and academies separately and in addition to the schools formula.

This growth fund is a top slice on the schools block and for the FY2014-2015, £357,582 is held centrally to allocate to schools and academies, where a request has been made by the LA for an increase in the schools PAN.

Bath & North East Somerset Council introduced a funding policy for Growth in LA Planned admission numbers (PAN -pupil admission numbers) from 1st April 2013 which addresses in year pupil growth in respect of basic need expansion. See **appendix A** which is a copy of the existing policy.

This policy now needs to be updated to take into account **the opening of a new site school** in the Keynsham area expected to be in September 2017 and on what basis the LA will fund the new school.

Officers would like to put together a group of head teachers and LA Officers to put proposals to the schools forum to expand the criteria in the current policy document to take into account the funding of new schools. For example:

* Start-up funding for first year funding to include employment of Headteacher , site, administrative staff and support services leading up to the opening of the school
* On-going class set up costs as additional classes are opened during period of expansion until the school is full
* Yearly pupil number growth in each September for the first 7/12th could be covered by the current LA Planned Growth criteria

Forum is asked to agree that a working group is established to generate proposals for forum to consider.