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| B&NES-PC-Spot  **People and Communities Department** | | Description: Bath and North East Somerset Clinical Commissioning GroupCOL | |
|  | Lewis House, Manvers Street, Bath, BA1 1JG  Tel: 01225 395355 Fax: 01225 394011 E-mail: Lorraine\_Elms@bathnes.gov.uk | |

SCHOOLS FORUM

**7**

Tuesday 12th May 2015

**Strategic Planning 3-5 year planning**

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| --- | --- |
| **Lead Officer** | **Mike Bowden** |
| **Contact details** | **Mike\_bowden@bathnes.gov.uk 0125 395610** |
| **Forum asked to steer** | **Steer required relating to forward planning to allow decisions to be made that will support the commissioning process** |
| **Time Needed** | **15 minutes** |

**Schools Forum**

**Development of 3-5 year financial perspective**

**Proposal:-**

Schools Forum has historically considered its budget only on a year to year basis. Whilst formal annual budget sign off will still be required (unless legislation changes), doing this in the context of a 3-5 year financial outlook would help to inform the Forum’s decision-making and give the Forum greater confidence in making appropriate financial commitments.

**Background:-**

The Council is increasingly able to look with a reasonable degree of confidence at likely financial allocations and pressures on a 3-5 year forward plan. Planning in this way allows us to plan ahead to tackle pressures or identify opportunities for savings or investments. It also enables the commitment of contracts for services on a 3-5 year basis, which brings economies and greater certainty for service providers. It can also helpfully inform the more immediate decisions required about how to allocate recurring or one-off funds available to Forum in the annual budget setting process to ensure this is done in the context of the picture for future years.

Given the ongoing pressures on both Council budgets and school finances, increasing numbers of Free Schools and plans for new Primary schools, etc, it is proposed that it would be timely to start developing a 3-5 year financial outlook for the Forum.

Any such financial outlook will inevitably require caveats where DfE allocations, pupil flows or pressures are estimated.

An illustrative example is attached for information.

Forum is invited to discuss and consider how this information can most helpfully be presented.

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|  | Specific  Budget headings | Current Year Budget (2015/16) | Forecast potential budget (increases/decreases) | | | | | |
|  | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | Notes |
| Total DSG Allocation (income) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Schools Allocations |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Existing recurrent allocations to EY and other services |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Potential increases |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Potential decreases |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Balance available to commit (recurrent) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| DSG Carry forward from prior year |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| One off allocations to schools |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| One off allocations to EY and other services |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Potential increases |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Potential decreases |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Balance available to commit (one off) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |