

STORMONT HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 16 Oct 2023

ITEM	FOCUS/NOTES	LEAD	ACTION
1	ATTENDANCE: NP (Chair), KM (Headteacher), GV (Business Manager), BH, BA,		
2	APOLOGIES: AR		
3	<p>FINANCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion of the commentary on Sept 2023 Financial Report prepared by GV. - Looked after children funding held by Hackney Virtual School has still not been fully passported to the school. KM will keep the Chair updated. - Increased level of funding for an Islington pupil, £65k, still to be agreed with LA. - Additional 1:1 funding for 2022/23 Hackney pupils still outstanding. - Noted that Catering income approx. £4k below budget. No significant outstanding parent debt. - There is a disconnect at the LA between agreeing additional funding for a student and triggering release of funds. - Discussion on “Clawback funds” re National Tutoring Funds £19k. Understood these funds should have been repaid to DFE and not Hackney. - Risk: Concerns that teacher Pay Award may not be fully funded by DFE (waiting guidance) Award of 4.5% included in budget. Additional 2% not budgeted for. - High level of Teaching Staff sickness cover noted. - Noted that annual premium for Staff Absence Cover had been paid. - Risk: support Staff Pay award not yet known and no indication that any increased uplift will be centrally funded. Uplift of 3% included in the budget. - Analysis of Building Maintenance requested. - Noted Electricity costs appear high with winter approaching. - Confirmed that increased Yr 12 Provider Costs will be match by increased pupil income. - Confirmed that all residential school journeys had been completed for current financial year. - It was noted that no expenditure under the 5-year refresh plan had occurred. Request for expenditure plan to be circulated. - Noted that the costs for Business Professional Services are front loaded. 	GV	<p>KM will talk the LBH Director of Education about the release of In-care pupil funds.</p> <p>GV to keep Committee advised.</p> <p>GV to provide.</p> <p>GV to provide planned expenditure in 5-year refresh plan.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion on the Capital Budget monies and how to spend it. Suggestion that the accumulated Capital funds should be used to upgrade the library area. KM stated that remodelling of the Pastoral Support Team reflection space/ Deputy annexe would provide better use of the current space. It was agreed to source ideas for improving the current library area. Discussion of the Library Project will be a standing item in the RC agenda. 		<p>GV to present ideas for using the Capital Budget. NP to include Library as a standing agenda item.</p>
3	<p>HUMAN RESOURCES Successful external recruitment to SEND Lead, internal recruitment to QoTLA Team (acting position during 22-23) Only 2 teacher vacancies totalling 1.2fte (Food Technology, Design Technology, some Art). Currently trialling a carousel model of delivery this, once evaluated, will feed into recruitment summer term 2024). Vacancies currently covered by 0.4 fte additional days worked by a permanent teacher and 0.8 fte by a long-term agency staff member.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion about the difficult market for recruitment for these posts. The Food tech post has been particularly difficult; it has been noted that the agency staff covering for this post previously did not have the required skills and experience. 		
4	<p>Audit and Risk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No specific or major risk identified to add to the risk register, aside from the above financial risks 		
5	<p>Premises</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No specific update compared to previous meetings. 		
6	<p>H&S and well being</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion about staff being more positive notwithstanding the Autumn term being the toughest one. This is reflected in staff turnover being low and agency staff wanting to return 		
7	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GV stated that the railway bridge was to be refurbished and that Downs Park Road would be closed for approximately 12 months. Contractors would be using the school car park and staff parking would be unavailable. GV to seek parking for staff close by. 		<p>GV to keep the Committee informed of these works</p>
	Date of Next meeting: 22 January 2024		

