

SCHOOLS FORUM

TUESDAY, 6 FEBRUARY 2024 AT 6.00 PM
REMOTE MEETING VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS. THIS MEETING CAN BE WATCHED
LIVE AT WWW.CAMDEN.GOV.UK/WEBCAST

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MEMBERS

Katy Forsdyke (Chair)

Daniel Silverstone (Vice-Chair) (L)

Jen Allan, Jules Belton, Rob Earrey, James Hadley, John Hayes, Nick Hewlett, Perina Holness, Bob House, Deborah Issacs, Nicholas John and Vijita Patel

SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

Izzy Jones, Alison Lowton and Jemima Wade

Issued on: Thursday, 1 February 2024

REMOTE MEETINGS IN CAMDEN

Everyone is welcome to watch public meetings in Camden. Agendas for these meetings are available in advance on the Council's website at www.camden.gov.uk/democracy.

Members of the public have a right to take their own recordings of public meetings for reporting purposes. Laws on public order offences and defamation still apply, and you should exercise your rights with responsibility. Please respect the views of others when reporting a meeting.

This meeting will be broadcast live via www.camden.gov.uk/webcast and will be viewable for six months afterwards. If you have any views or questions about meetings at Camden Council please call Committee Services on 020 7974 1915

REMOTE MEETING ETIQUETTE

Participants¹ in remote meetings are asked to adhere to the following guidelines:

Preparing for the meeting

- If you are planning to attend, make sure you have informed the committee officer named on the agenda front sheet, so that a full list of those expected at the meeting can be prepared.
- Ensure you have read the report(s) before the meeting.
- Ensure that you are located in an area where you are unlikely to be disturbed.
- Ensure that your broadband connection is sufficiently stable to join the meeting. If your connection has low bandwidth, you might need to ask others using your broadband connection to disconnect their devices from the broadband for the duration of the meeting. If the does not help, you may wish to try connecting your device to your router using an Ethernet cable.
- Ensure that your background is neutral (a blank wall is best) and that you are dressed appropriately for a meeting held in public.
- Ensure that the camera on the device that you are using is positioned to provide a clear, front-on view of your face. This may involve thinking about lighting in the room you are in (for example, sitting in front of a window may plunge your face into shadow) or putting your webcam, laptop or tablet on top of a couple of books so that you can look into the camera face on.
- Ensure that you are familiar with the functions of the software you are using. The committee officer will be online 15 minutes before the meeting start time to give everyone time to join and deal with any technical challenges, so try to join the meeting at least 5 minutes before the meeting start time to make sure that everything is working.
- Ideally, you should use earphones or a headset to participate in meetings as it reduces the risk of feedback from using your device's external speaker and reduces background noise from your surroundings.

At the meeting

- Join the meeting promptly to avoid unnecessary interruptions.
- Mute your microphone when you are not talking. If you are an officer or a depute, please turn off your video when not speaking in order to reduce bandwidth.

¹ Participants are defined as members of the Forum; officers advising the Forum or presenting reports; and any external partners / third-parties invited to address or advise the Forum.

- Only speak when invited to do so by the Chair.
- When speaking for the first time, please state your name.
- Keep comments, questions and other contributions brief and to the point.
- If referring to a specific page on the agenda, mention the page number.
- The 'chat' function must only be used by committee members to indicate a wish to speak, to indicate that they are having a connection issue or to make a request for a formal vote. It is not to be used for conversations and should be used in an appropriate and professional manner at all times.
- Once you no longer need to participate in the meeting, please leave the call; you can still watch via the public video stream if you wish. Once the Chair closes the meeting, all remaining participants should leave the call promptly.

Gender inclusive minutes: Camden seeks to write the minutes of its committees in a way that does not misgender individuals. If you are contributing to the meeting and you wish to let us know what your pronouns are, please contact the Committee Officer named on the front of this agenda. Otherwise, we will use job titles, full names or neutral terminology. We will not assume gender.

ENDS

WEBCASTING NOTICE

This meeting will be broadcast live by the Council via www.camden.gov.uk/webcast. The whole of the meeting will be filmed and recorded, except where there are confidential or exempt items, and the footage will be on the Internet for at least a year. A copy of it will also be retained in accordance with the Council's data retention policy.

If you make a representation to the meeting you will be deemed by the Council to have consented to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings for webcasting and/or training purposes.

The Council is obliged by law to allow members of the public to take their own recordings and images of this remote meeting. The Council will only seek to prevent this should it be undertaken in a disruptive or otherwise inappropriate manner.

The Council has a privacy notice and further details that you can see at www.camden.gov.uk/privacy. We also have a privacy notice that explains our use of webcasting data that you can see at www.camden.gov.uk/data-protection-privacy-and-cookies#webcasting

If you have any queries regarding webcasting or the recording of meetings by the public, please contact the webcasting co-ordinator on 020 7974 5653.

SCHOOLS FORUM

6 FEBRUARY 2024

AGENDA

- 1. GUIDANCE ON REMOTE MEETINGS** (Pages 7 - 10)

To agree the procedures for the operation of remote meetings.

- 2. SCHOOLS FORUM MEMBERSHIP LIST** (Pages 11 - 12)

To note the Schools Forum membership list and any updates.

- 3. APOLOGIES**

- 4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA**

- 5. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Broadcast of the meeting

The Chair to announce the following: ‘In addition to the rights by law that the public and press have to record this meeting, I would like to remind everyone that this meeting is being broadcast live by the Council to the Internet and can be viewed on our website for twelve months after the meeting. After that time, webcasts are archived and can be made available upon request.

If you have asked to address the meeting, you are deemed to be consenting to having your contributions recorded and broadcast, including video when switched on, and to the use of those sound recordings and images for webcasting and/or training purposes’.

Any other announcements

- 6. MINUTES** (Pages 13 - 22)

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 5 December 2023.

7. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

8. SCHOOL FUNDING 2024/25 UPDATE

(Pages
23 - 58)

Report of the Head of Education Commissioning and School Organisation.

This report updates the schools forum on the estimated funding available for 2024/25 following the recent Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) finance settlement notification on 19th December 2023 and details the anticipated use of this money to fund schools early years and high needs. It then outlines future funding pressures the current DSG reserves position, de-delegation and the latest advice on energy costs.

9. NEW FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR EARLY EDUCATION

(Pages
59 - 72)

Report of the Head of Education Commissioning and School Organisation.

This report summarises the Free Early Education entitlements funded by the government for 2, 3 and 4 year olds and outlines the additional entitlements that were announced in March 2022 and will be phased in from April 2024.

The report also proposes a new approach to the allocation of Camden's Local Inclusion Fund which supports providers to meet the needs of children with emerging special educational needs or disabilities.

10. HIGH NEEDS BLOCK (HNB): POSITION UPDATE FOR 2023/24 AND PROJECTIONS FOR 2024/25

(Pages
73 - 78)

Report of the Director of Education Commissioning and Inclusion.

This report provides an update on the position of the 2023/24 HNB and on the basis of this, funding proposals for 2024/25.

11. SCHOOL MEALS DELIVERY IN SCHOOLS UPDATE

(Pages
79 - 86)

Report of the Head of Education Commissioning and School Organisation.

Camden Council has regularly reported to Schools Forum concerning the ongoing consideration of future School Meals contract.

The presentation sets out the Council's current consideration of future school meals delivery within the Borough and the range of options available to the Council.

12. FORWARD PLAN 2023-24

(Pages
87 - 88)

To consider and note the Schools Forum forward plan.

13. FUTURE MEETING DATES

The final meeting of the 2023-24 academic year is on 4 June 2024.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

AGENDA ENDS

The date of the next meeting will be Tuesday, 4 June 2024 at 6.00 pm in Remote meeting via Microsoft Teams. This meeting can be watched live at www.camden.gov.uk/webcast.