

4.05	<p><u>SFVS – item 8.02 refers:</u> Resolved The SBM had reported to the Headteacher and Chair on the completion of the SFVS ahead of its submission to the Local Authority.</p>	
4.06	<p><u>SFVS – item 8.03 refers:</u> Resolved The Clerk had forwarded the updated SFVS guidance to all committee members so that they might review, and recommend, any amendments sent by email, by the Headteacher, before the deadline.</p>	
4.07	<p><u>Policies for Approval – item 11.05.2 refers:</u> - the Staff Disciplinary Resolved Unconscious Bias training had been arranged for all staff in the autumn term. Governors were invited to attend. The Head agreed to forward details.</p> <p>A report would be brought to the autumn FGB meeting.</p>	<p>Head Autumn agenda item</p>
4.08	<p><u>Policies for Approval – item 11.07 refers:</u> Resolved The updated Staff Maternity (Paternity), Birth and Adoption Policy had not been received from the Local Authority in time for this meeting. SG offered to review it ahead of its approval at the July FGB meeting.</p>	<p>FGB agenda item</p>
5	GOVERNOR MONITORING OF SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES	
5.01	This committee has no specific area of the School Improvement Plan to monitor.	
6	FINANCE AND VIREMENTS UPDATE	
	Last Tuesday's budget setting meeting with the Local Authority's finance officer superseded all previous documents circulated.	
	The budget report and authority spreadsheet were shared on screen, having been circulated ahead of the meeting.	
	The Headteacher took governors through the highlights, asking for questions along the way.	
6.01	<p>Income Pupil Numbers The majority of school's income was based on the number of pupils on roll. Income had, however, increased despite overall falling pupil numbers for the following reasons:</p>	

6.01.1 An increase in nursery children as a result of the school's pro-actively admitting children the day after their third birthday rather than waiting till the term following. Additionally, those parents who were eligible for thirty hours' free places had been encouraged and supported to use them. This represented an extra six children.

45 children were expected into Reception in September. It was noted that, alongside the 85 children making up Years 1 and 2, this would reduce the class numbers from 4 to 3.

As these reduced numbers followed through school, by 2024-2025 there would be three classes per year group with an estimated settling of 45 in each year group.

The PAN had been altered accordingly.

6.01.2 **SEND (Special Educational Need and Disability)**

There was the workforce and knowledge in place to ensure all children eligible for SEND funding were awarded it. This had delivered an increase of £56,000 from September 2022.

Since applications for some were necessary every two years it was possible that this might fall in future years. It was noted that the budget assumed this amount would be ongoing.

6.01.3 **Grant funding**

Delegated grant funding remained largely the same apart from

- an increased amount (£31,000) as school was in an area of high deprivation
- an uplift to accommodate those eligible for free school meals (from £78 to £90 per child)
- more money for pupil premium since a greater number of families had become eligible because of the pandemic (£40/child/year)

Overall, this represented an increase in income despite fewer numbers of children, enabling school to maintain its provision.

Covid Catch-Up funding had been removed, as had the free school meals funding for the school holidays (Marcus Rashford).

School meals income remained the same and was anticipated, with breakfast club income, to not change.

The Sports and PE Grant remained the same.

Income from school trips was not expected to change since the subsidy had been raised.

A supplementary grant in recognition of the rise to teacher salaries (£30,000 for new starters), plus the associated NI and pension costs, would remain for the next twelve months.

The cap on gains, to enable the employment of staff, based on the number of children lost to school was £34,000. This would reach £67,000 by 2024-2025.

6.01.4 **Insurance**

School had received only £19,000 in insurance for staff absences during the pandemic despite paying £32,000 premium.

Looking at the staff absence pattern it was decided that the insurance would not be renewed in August, saving school the premium, since there was capacity in school to cover absences.

6.01.5 **Staffing**

The SLT and teaching staffing structure, reducing as class sizes decreased, through natural wastage, would save school money going forward.

Cleaning, catering, and lunchtime staffing remained the same, subject to inflation.

The office re-organisation (from three to two) had produced a streamlined administrative and financial service at a saving of £34,000. The SBM role would continue to identify further savings.

The return of the maternity leave (whose role had been re-distributed throughout the staff team) plus the appointment of a replacement Attendance Officer and new Behaviour Mentor represented an expenditure of £120,000. This would be paid for by the overall increase in government funding.

The roles of Attendance Officer and Behaviour Mentor (£60,000) represented an understanding that there was a proven correlation between families in deprivation and poor attendance/behaviour challenges.

It was noted that it would be considered a false economy to reduce the number of TAs (Teaching Assistants) in line with the reduction in class teachers. Since the number of SEND children was rising TAs played an essential role in supporting their education. It was likely that an extra TA

would be appointed to continue provision for the current number of children supported in the Rainbow Room.

A governor was reassured that the continuing provision for a growing number of neuro-diverse children, whilst they waited for their EHCP (Education and Health Care Plan) placement was possible since there was now an empty classroom in school.

6.02 **Expenditure**

6.02.1 **Training**

£15,000 was allocated for staff training.

6.02.2 **Buildings**

An additional £36,240 had been set aside to supplement the budgeted £18,760.

This represented the identified works needed to future proof against significant changes such as:

- drains collapse and enlargement - £60,000 (to avoid the current £2,000 fortnightly call-out)
- lift maintenance
- phone system
- hall floor
- nursery changing area
- new stage
- dining room furniture
- fuse boards
- fire escapes

The costliest expenditure was a climate-controlled boiler system for which a grant of 70% was available; cost to school of £30,000. This would be more cost effective than the current outdated system.

The SBM would liaise with SG to ensure the best possible contract/system was installed.

A governor enquired if the timescale allowed for the expenditure allocated to this or whether it would be moved to the next financial year. Since the installation would necessitate school being closed to staff and children it was possible that it would not take place till Summer 2023. The budget would be amended accordingly, if necessary.

6.02.3 **Fuel**

A governor asked if the increase in fuel prices had been factored into the budget. The Headteacher explained that Leeds City Council had advised a 100% increase in gas (from £10,000 to £20,000) and 60% increase in electricity.

SBM/SG

Head

This represented an increase from £25,000 to £40,000 combined. The new boiler system would bring this amount down once installed.

6.02.4 **Curriculum**

£108,000 was set aside to spend on Computing, English, Maths (increased cost of the current scheme), the school dog (Arlo), and Music.

This represented SLT's decision to make available money to mitigate the circumstances of school's children, increasing the creative curriculum and recognising talent in the arts.

There was increased spending allocated for developing the outdoor foundation stage area.

6.02.5 **Supplies and Services**

Broadband and telephone costs had increased.

The slight decrease in catering represented the fall in numbers having a school lunch whilst the Covid arrangements remained in place. It was anticipated that from September this would return to the previous number as all restrictions were removed.

Coaching for the leadership team, suspended during the pandemic, was again factored into the budget moving forward.

Since school's status had been raised from Requires Improvement to Good at the recent Ofsted inspection, only one day's support was now available from the SIA (School Improvement Advisor). Any other input would be charged.

Impact North's time in school would be increased to accommodate those children (currently 12) on the waiting list for support with SEMH (Social, Emotional and Mental Health) challenges, in order to improve their lives and attainment in school.

All Leeds City Council's prices had increased in line with inflation.

Prior to the Covid pandemic, all classes had received £500/class towards trips and experiences.

This would be increased to £700/class/term this year to support and offset the increase in deprivation in the school community. An example of how this would help was given

reflecting the increased cost of coaches and museum entrance fees.

The SBM reported having successfully shaved £7,000 off the ICT SLA (Service-Learning Agreement) after making comparisons with another school's provision.

6.03 **Budget Report**

This had been circulated ahead of the meeting and was shared on screen.

Governors were asked to approve the budget which showed an income of £2,730,000 and £2,670,000 expenditure, for adoption at the FGB meeting in July.

The in-year surplus of £60,000, plus the carry forward from last year of £40,000 would give a £100,000 contingency.

A governor was reassured that this was not near the 15% limit before clawback. The situation might draw closer to the clawback limit in future years, looking at the current predictions.

To this end, and to mitigate the context of the school's children, an SLT meeting would consider ways to spend some of the contingency in the children's best interests.

A governor suggested widening the music provision from Artforms since neuroscience had proven that the confidence and practice of making music crossed over into other areas of ability. The music co-ordinator would explore this.

A governor suggested investigating diversity education to reverse any stereotyping bias at an early age. This would also be considered by SLT.

Governors were asked to email any other suggestions to the Headteacher, for consideration directly before the next FGB meeting.

6.03.1 **Resolved**

Governors agreed to recommend the approval and adoption of the budget to the full governing body on 19 July.

7 SCHOOLS FINANCIAL VALUE STANDARD (SFVS)

7.01 This had been reviewed, agreed, and forwarded to the Local Authority once signed by the Chair.

Head

July FGB meeting

<p>8 8.01</p>	<p>STAFFING POLICIES FOR APPROVAL The updated Staff Maternity (Paternity), Birth and Adoption Policy had not been received from the Local Authority in time for this meeting. SG offered to review it ahead of its approval at the July FGB meeting.</p>	<p>SG</p>
<p>9 9.01 9.02 9.03 9.04</p>	<p>STAFFING AND PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT UPDATE, INCLUDING WELLBEING Teaching staff mid-year reviews took place in the weeks beginning 19 and 25 April. All bar one staff were on track to meet their performance management targets by the end of the year. The staff member not on track was leaving school at the end of the summer term but would be supported until then. The Headteacher's mid-year review was yet to be arranged and would take place before the end of the summer term. The Chair, SG and AO would attend. Following Staff Wellbeing being discussed at the March FGB, MW (Wellbeing Governor) had met with the school's Wellbeing lead to discuss any further action that could be taken to improve staff wellbeing. His tips would be considered at the SLT meeting later this week and added to the raft of actions in place in school. Unconscious Bias training was planned for the autumn term CPD programme. Governors were invited to attend.</p>	<p>Head</p>
<p>10 10.01 10.02 10.02.1</p>	<p>HEALTH AND SAFETY AND PREMISES Leeds City Council undertook its last full inspection in August 2021. An officer had been back on site to advise about updates to the energy system and other aspects in need of improvements (fire escapes). His full report would be brought to the next Resources meeting. The site manager had reported on buildings, premises, health and safety, and first aid. This document had been circulated ahead of the meeting and was shared on screen. The Local Authority would contribute £70,000 to improve/replace the heating system (with school contributing £30,000). The fire escape improvements would be paid for by ringfenced capital already in the school budget. Governors were informed that the playground canopies, damaged by the storms, had been repaired.</p>	<p>Autumn agenda item</p>

- 10.02.2 Fire Marshall training had taken place with a successful fire practice.
- 10.02.3 Six members of staff were now qualified to drive the school minibus.
- 10.02.4 There had been no near misses. It was noted that since the Site Manager was pro-active, emerging problems cost less to rectify.
- 10.03 School had been awarded a new (£10,000) library, installed last week, following a successful visit by a local children's author, Tom Parker.

A return visit from the author, with the media, was expected soon.

11 GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR)

- 11.01 The SBM reported that there had been no GDPR breaches.

12 EDUCATIONAL VISITS

- 12.01 Since the last meeting, Year 6 and Year 4 had enjoyed residential visits where they had slept out for 2 evenings.

Year 5 will be going on their re-arranged Year 4 residential visit in June.

Year 6 would visit London on 8 July.

All trips were currently subsidised by 70%. Those children unable to go remained in school doing craft and environmental activities.

13 ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

- 13.01 There was no other urgent business.

The Chair thanked the Headteacher and SBM for their hard work and fine detail of the budget report.

14 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

- 14.01 Autumn term, TBC.

The Chair thanked governors for attending and closed the meeting at 6.30 pm.