AGENDA ITEM 6

**Title of report: Facilities Time**

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**Details on who has been consulted with on this paper to date:**

**Executive summary**

This report outlines the position on Facilities Time and the decision made by the Chair of the Schools Forum.

**Details of recommendations and timescales for decisions:**

* Budget envelope set by Schools Forum originally based on 195 day rates.
* Oaklands and Malmesbury seeking 365 days actual costs for NEU official released.
* Envelope from Schools Forum couldn’t meet 365 days at actual costs
* Independent review in December (reported January) recommends 365 actual costs for Schools forum to consider (for next financial year)
* Possible to overspend the budget (i.e. set a deficit plan for facilities time) provided the Schools Forum agreed. Chair of Schools Forum did not agree to deficit budget
* Various models considered within the envelope but Oaklands and Malmesbury could not be funded at 365 actual unless other schools significantly disadvantaged
* This only applies to teaching unions as non teaching union officials term time only
* Fairest way was to fund schools the same way and the budget affords 10/12th which is 304 days

**Summary:**

The payment for facilities time to school trade unions for present year is calculated at 10/12ths. Any additional costs will need to be discussed between the unions and the schools.

The chair of the Schools Forum has not agreed to allow a budget overspend, a decision confirmed as appropriate by the Department for Education (DFE).

The focus was to avoid setting a deficit budget for facilities time, thereby ensuring equal treatment of both teaching and non-teaching unions. The aim was to promote fairness and consistency in how all unions are treated. The overall budget was higher than initially anticipated. Finance will present further details on this matter for the upcoming financial year.