

Swindon Borough Council

Schools Forum

Tuesday, 20 March 2018

Committee Room 6, Civic Offices at 4.00 p.m.

Maintained School Members:

Janet Urban
Mark Edwards
Charles Law
Alison Lowe
Ben Slater
Jackie Smith
Ray Williams

Chair - Primary Headteacher
Governor - Secondary
Special Governor
Primary Headteacher
Pupil Referral Unit Headteacher
Special Schools Headteacher
Primary Governor

Academy Members:

Nick Capstick
Fiona Godfrey
Andrew Henstridge
Emma Leigh-Bennett
Bob Linnegar
James Povoas
Karen Pyman
Clive Zimmerman

Special Academy
Mainstream Academy
Mainstream Academy
Mainstream Academy
Mainstream Academy
Mainstream Academy
Mainstream Academy
Mainstream Academy

Non-School Representatives:

Emma Lindsay
Jo Morris
Peter Smith
Steve Wain

Diocese of Bristol
Early Years
Trade Unions
16-19 Partnership

Observer Status

Education Funding Agency

Committee Officer: Rita Glen-Gallo

Telephone: 01793 463611 Email: rglen-gallo@swindon.gov.uk

Swindon Borough Council can be contacted at the Civic Offices, Euclid Street, Swindon, SN1 2JH (Telephone 01793 445500)

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting (Pages 3 - 6)

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 17th January 2018.

3. **2017-18 Dedicated Schools Grant Budget Position** FM (Pages 7 - 22)

4. **2018-19 Dedicated Schools Grant Budget** FM (Pages 23 - 32)

Date of Despatch: 09 March 2018

Key:

Officers:

FM - Finance Manager

Public Question Time - Swindon Borough Council remains committed to increasing its accountability to the public and to promoting active citizenship. 15 minutes will be allowed at the start of all Council meetings for questions to the Chair from the public about the work of the Committee (except for confidential matters, and matters relating to planning and licensing applications). We will give priority to those who submit questions in writing at least two days before the meeting. Questions must be relevant, clear, and concise. You may not use Public Question Time as an opportunity to make speeches or statements.

(N.B. The Schools Forum has previously agreed that public questions can be submitted in writing up to 24 hours prior to a meeting and that, where possible, a written response be provided at the meeting.)

Questions in writing should be sent to the Committee Officer whose contact details appear on the agenda above or to the Director of Law and Democratic Services, we will publish it, along with the answer, alongside the Minutes. The process associated with asking a public question is set out in the "Public Question Time at Council Meetings Protocol and Guidance" available on the Council's Website.

<http://ww5.swindon.gov.uk/moderngov/ecCatDisplay.aspx?sch=doc&cat=13338&path=0>) or from the Committee Officer named above.

Access Arrangements – The Venue is wheelchair accessible and an infrared receiver hearing system is provided. If you would wish to attend the meeting but have any special requirement to enable you to do so please contact the Committee Clerk above, as soon as possible prior to the date of the meeting.

If you would like to receive any of the pages contained in this agenda in a larger print size please contact the Committee Officer whose name appears on the first page of this agenda.

SCHOOLS FORUM

WEDNESDAY, 17 JANUARY 2018

Maintained School Members: Rhian Cockwell, Primary Headteacher
Mark Edwards, Governor - Secondary
Charles Law, Special Governor
Alison Lowe, Primary Headteacher
Jackie Smith, Special Schools Headteacher
Ray Williams, Primary Governor
Fiona Godfrey, Mainstream Academy
Andrew Henstridge, Mainstream Academy

Academy Members: Emma Leigh-Bennett, Mainstream Academy
Bob Linnegar, Mainstream Academy
James Povoas, Mainstream Academy
Karen Pyman, Mainstream Academy
Clive Zimmerman, Mainstream Academy
Nick Capstick, Special Academy

Non-School Members: Peter Smith, Trade Unions
Jo Morris, Early Years

Officers: Peter Nathan (Head of Education)
Ian Burbidge (Head of Finance, Schools)
Anne Mackay (Finance Manager, Education)

Apologies for absence were received from Ben Slater (Pupil Referral Unit Headteacher), Janet Urban (Primary Headteacher), Emma Lindsay (Diocese of Bristol) and Steve Wain (16-19 Partnership).

22. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Resolved - That the minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2017 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

23. Public Questions

Mr Alastair Dixon - Patterson of Lydiard Park Academy, Swindon, enquired whether the census figures used to calculate the Age Weighted Pupil Unit (AWPU) in the models presented in the report included pupils receiving special resourced provision. The Chair advised that a written response would be provided.

Mrs N Wilding of Tadpole Farm Church of England Primary Academy, enquired when the classroom set up funding allocation of £11,500 per form of entry had last been reviewed. The Chair advised that a written response would be provided.

24. 2018_19 Dedicated Schools Grant Settlement and Budget

The Finance Manager, Education, presented a report updating the Forum on the 2018/19 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) settlement, including (a) estimates of the level of expenditure to be allocated to Early Years, Schools and Academies,

High Needs settings and the Central Schools Services centrally retained budgets, (b) the submission of the Authority Proforma Toolkit to the Education Funding Agency, enabling mainstream budgets to be calculated, (c) expenditure proposals for all High Needs block funded items including High Needs students in Mainstream schools, Special schools, Special Resourced Provisions, Alternative Provision, Post-16 and Further Education, External Placements, Independent and Non-Maintained Special Schools and Other Local Authority Commissioned High Needs, and (d) submission of the Section 251 Budget Statement to the Education Funding Agency by end of March 2018.

The Finance Manager, Education, tabled an update at the meeting relating to paragraphs 3.30 to 3.39 (Schools Formula funding factors 2018/19) and 3.49 to 3.50 (Pupil Growth – Schools Block) of the report and explained that this information should be reviewed in conjunction with the report circulated before the meeting. The officer explained that the information submitted within the tabled document was created as updated Schools Block data was received from the Education Funding Agency necessitating an update to be submitted to members. Particular points that were identified related to the Early Years funding for disadvantaged 2 year olds and 3 and 4 year olds that are paid on a participation model, the timescale for the Early Years settings to submit bids to increase school placements in September 2018 relating to the Childcare Sufficiency report and the three options available for members to balance schools' budgets for 2018/19,

Following the introduction of the report, the Finance Manager, Education, with the Head of Finance, Technical and Head of Education, responded to members' comments and questions in respect of the following matters:

- The tendering and procurement processes for the Early Years and Childcare Sufficiency projects.
- The ring-fencing of the Early Years and Childcare Sufficiency projects budgets.
- The allocation of school places for September following completion of the Early Years and Childcare Sufficiency projects.
- The award of secondary low prior attainment funding through the Department for Education and the data used for primary and secondary low prior attainment for all settings.
- The audit of maintained and academy schools by the Copyright Office to review Copyright licences.
- The modelling exercise to be carried out when reviewing future High Needs Contingency funding.
- The exercise undertaken by external consultants to determine the reasons for the high number of pupils with special educational needs in Swindon.
- The recouping of post 16 expenditure funding by the Education and Skills Funding Agency would recoup.

The Chair concluded the discussion by highlighting the positive achievements of the Local Authority and schools in creating bespoke packages for pupils with complex needs to ensure they were catered for within the borough, resulting in a reduction of pressure on the high needs budget. It was noted that Swindon had the lowest rate of out of borough placements in England. The Head of Education explained that other local authorities were experiencing the same issue and this was affecting their DSG balances. He echoed the Chair's comments and thanked the

Schools Forum members for their support in using bespoke packages to reduce the risk of an in-year overspend on the DSG.

Resolved - (1) That with regard to the Dedicated Schools Grant Funding Settlement 2018 - 19, it be noted that:

(a) the Early Years block 2018/19 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) settlement would be subject to revisions by the Department for Education ('DfE') in light of Early Years census information in January 2018 and January 2019 and that the final settlement would not be confirmed until July 2019.

(b) the estimated DSG balance at the end of 2018/19 was expected to be £0.258m.

(c) Swindon was expected to receive a total DSG settlement of £176.765m in 2018/19.

(2) That with regard to the 2018/19 DSG Expenditure Budget, the following be agreed:

(a) The proposed 2018/19 Early Years funding rates as shown in Table 7, which would take effect from 1st April 2018.

(b) The 2018/19 Early Years budget of £14.025m as shown in Table 7.

(c) The retained budget or reserves created from an underspend of the retained Early Years extended hours entitlement would be used to create the additional Early years places required by the Childcare Sufficiency report, up to £0.350m in total.

(d) The Primary Low Prior Attainment be set at 80% weighting and all factors including the flat rate / lump sum are paid at 98.675%.

(3) That with regard to the 2018/19 DSG Expenditure Budget, the following be noted:

(a) A Childcare Sufficiency Assessment was completed during Autumn 2017 and a strategy would be drafted once the final report had been published.

(b) The completed Authority Pro-forma Tool was to be returned to the Education and Skills Funding Agency by 19th January 2018.

(c) Following the implementation of 2d above in this report, the DSG budget would be balanced within its funding blocks as detailed in Table 9.

(4) The Notional SEN funding top ups payable for 2018/19 at a total estimated cost of £0.400m, be noted.

(5) The following de-delegations for one year from April 2018 be agreed, with the understanding that each phase of maintained schools refer them to their Association for agreement and to advise the Head of Finance, Technical, of the decision made by each Association.

(a) Free School Meal eligibility administration would be charged at £4.80 per pupil in 2018/19 and was supported until 31st March 2019.

(b) Trade Union release time would be charged at £1.25 per pupil in 2018/19 and was supported until 31st March 2019.

(c) Nylands Campus Outreach Team would be charged at £12.33 per primary pupil in 2018/19 and was supported until 31st March 2019.

(6) A total 2018/19 pupil growth budget of £0.508m, be agreed.

(7) That with regards to the Central Schools Services block Budget, the following be agreed:

(a) The Admissions budget as detailed in paragraph 3.51.1.

(b) The Schools Subscriptions and Licenses budget as detailed in paragraph 3.51.2.

(c) The Schools Forum budget as detailed in paragraph Para. 3.51.3.

(d) The Travellers Children budget as detailed in paragraph 3.51.4.

(e) The Equal Pay budget as detailed in paragraph 3.51.5.

(8) The retainment of £0.523m, of DSG schools block funding by the Local Authority to cover the statutory duties that it provides for all schools and academies, be noted.

(9) The Schools Block budget £131.117m for 2018/19 as shown in Table 12, be noted.

(10) The place funding budget for 2018/19 of £7.310m, be noted.

(11) The top-up funding budget for 2018/19 of £9.161m, be noted.

(12) The proposed introduction of a new supplement provided for Reception to Year 11 pupils in Special Resource Provision setting that do not receive an average of £4,000 of mainstream funding plus £6,000 place funding, be noted.

(13) The non-requirement of the Minimum Funding Guarantee budget for specialist settings, be noted.

(14) The Local Authority's proposals for High Needs Budgets as described in paragraphs 3.64 to 3.80 of this report, and listed below be noted:

- a) Alternative Provision.
- b) Commissioned High Needs Services.
- c) Post 16 High Needs Budgets,
- d) Mainstream School Top Up Funding.
- e) External Placements (Pre 16).
- f) High Needs Contingency.
- g) Other Centrally Retained High Needs Services.

(15) That, the Finance Manager, Education, be requested to circulate further information regarding bidders for Early Years placements projects before the next meeting of the Forum.

(16) That, the Finance Manager, Education, be requested to circulate information on how funding for Primary and Secondary Low Prior Attainment was awarded.

(17) That the Head of Education be requested to circulate links to reports regarding the high number of pupils with special educational needs in Swindon, before the next meeting of the Forum.

(18) That, before the next meeting of the Forum, the Finance Manager, Education, be requested to confirm whether the Post 16 High Needs Top-up funding was applied to both colleges and sixth forms in Swindon.

2017-18 Dedicated Schools Grant Budget Position

Schools Forum

Date: 20th March 2018

Author:	Finance Manager Education
Wards:	All
Locality Affected:	All
Parishes Affected:	All

1. Purpose and Reasons

- 1.1 To advise Schools Forum members of the latest projected 2017-18 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) retained budget position.
- 1.2 The Local Authority (LA) is required to report the position on the DSG budget to the Schools Forum throughout the year and at the financial year end. This report provides Forum Members with the projected year end position against the 2017-18 retained budgets based upon available information at the end of January 2018. In accordance with grant conditions, the year-end DSG balance (whether positive or negative) is ring-fenced and must be carried forward to the following year, and the Schools Forum must be consulted on how the surplus or deficit is managed.
- 1.3 The retained DSG budget is monitored in accordance with standard Swindon Borough Council ("SBC") budgetary control procedures and a report is submitted to the Education Leadership Team each month. Updates are also periodically provided to Corporate Management Team, Cabinet and the People's Services Leadership Team ("PSLT"). The council's budget monitoring timetable has recently been improved, the February monitoring forecast position was still being finalised as this report went to print.
- 1.4 Utilisation of the DSG contributes towards delivering the Council Vision Priority "Offer education opportunities that lead to the right skills and the right jobs in the right places".

2. Recommendations

The Schools Forum is recommended to:

- 2.1 Note that the latest projection on the 2017-18 retained budget is an out-turn position that will be **£0.127m** above budget.
- 2.2 Note that following the projected out-turn position the unallocated DSG balance will decrease to **£0.419m**.

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Anne Mackay, Finance Manager Education, Tel: 07795 256545, amackay@swindon.gov.uk.

2017-18 Dedicated Schools Grant Budget Position

Schools Forum

Date: 20th March 2018

3. Detail

Latest 2017-18 Retained Budget Position

- 3.1 As reported to Schools Forum on 17th January 2017 the overall value of the 2017-18 centrally retained DSG budget is £33.346m, including £1.351m of 30 Hours Implementation Funding, which is included in the 3&4 year old budget.
- 3.2 Attached at **Appendix A** is the report that was issued on 6th February to the Education Leadership Team on based on information at the end of January. This shows that the projected out-turn position is forecast to be £0.127m above the overall budget. The main reasons for the projected variances and commentaries on all high risk areas are provided in Appendix A.
- 3.3 The projected position for January is a favourable movement of £0.053m when compared to the previous position reported to forum in October of £0.180m above budget, which was based on the position at the end of August.
- 3.4 The main changes are an increase in High Needs Top ups following banding adjustments in both special and mainstream settings and an increase in the number of pupils supported by High Needs Top ups, and costs related to support provided to a school in financial difficulties. These additional costs are offset by a reduction in Post 16 places taken up and a recoupment adjustment for pupil growth confirmed by the Educations and Skills Funding Agency, resulting in a favourable net movement.
- 3.5 At this stage the LA is expecting that, although there continues to be a risk associated with the projection, it is expected that the year-end position of £0.127m (0.38%) above budget will occur, which will reduce the existing unallocated DSG balance.
- 3.6 Following the projected forecast of £0.127m the value of the unallocated DSG balance will be £0.419m.

Members of the Schools Forum are now asked to:

- **Note that the latest projection on the 2017-18 retained budget is £0.127m above budget**
- **Note that following the projected out-turn position the unallocated DSG balance will decrease to £0.419m**

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 There are no proposals included within this report.
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Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Anne Mackay, Finance Manager Education, Tel: 07795 256545, amackay@swindon.gov.uk.

2017-18 Dedicated Schools Grant Budget Position

Schools Forum

Date: 20th March 2018

5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 Various financial implications are included in this report relating to management of the retained DSG budget

Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 5.2 There are no legal or human rights implications arising from this report.

All Other Implications (including Staff, Sustainability, Health, Rural, Crime and Disorder)

- 5.3 This report does not make any recommendations that affect these areas.

Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.4 As there are no proposals in this report, a DIA has not been completed.

Risk Management

- 5.5 There are no specific risk management implications not highlighted in the body of the report.

6. Consultees

- 6.1 The Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 None

8. Appendices

- 8.1 Appendix A - Education Leadership Team budget monitoring report
- 8.2 Appendix B - DSG Budget analysis by expenditure type
- 8.3 Appendix C - DSG Profiled budget to date compared with forecast and actual expenditure to date

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Report to: **Commissioning – Education Leadership Team**
 From: Anne Mackay, Finance Manager – Education
 Date: 6th February 2018
 Subject: **Budget Monitoring Report 2017-18 DSG Services**
 Period: Period to January 2018

1) Background

The Council's corporate budget monitoring timetable requires each Group to report its forecast outturn position each month and this report is based on the information provided at the end of January 2018.

Although the DSG position is included in Corporate Management Team and Cabinet reports it is unlikely that elected members will be overly concerned as this is outside the SBC General Fund and is essentially an issue for the Head of Education and his leadership team to manage in consultation with the Finance Team and Schools Forum.

A summary of how the 2017-18 DSG has been allocated is provided below. The 30 hours implementation grant is now included in the budgets for the DSG allocation and 3 & 4 year old nursery entitlement.

Table 1 – DSG 2017-18 Overview

	<u>£m</u>	<u>£m</u>
<u>Delegated</u>		
Maintained Mainstream schools	43.164	
Maintained Specialist settings (Special Schools and SRP's)	7.854	
Maintained Specialist Settings - £0.510m ESFA Post 16 funding	(0.510)	
Academy Mainstream Recoupment	82.597	
Academy Specialist settings (Special Schools and SRP's) Recoupment	2.147	
Post 16 Transfer for FE Colleges	1.484	
Commissioned Services	1.034	
		137.769
<u>Centrally retained for provision</u>		
Disadvantaged 2 year old nursery places	2.059	
Free Nursery Entitlement 3 & 4 year olds (<i>incl. 30 hrs £1.351m</i>)	11.574	
In Year Pupil Growth	0.580	14.213
<u>High Need SEN</u>		
Portage, SEN equipment, Therapeutic services etc.	0.809	
SBC top ups – mainstream settings	11.882	
HN Contingency	0.065	
Tuition Service	0.881	
Out of Borough placements	2.407	
Post 16 provision (new responsibilities)	1.875	
Exclusions income	(0.335)	17.582
<u>Centrally retained to cover SBC and other costs</u>		
Admissions, Free School Meal eligibility checks, school licences, equal pay etc.	1.551	1.551
		33.346
Total DSG Allocation (including Early Years Pupil Premium of £0.128m)		171.115

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Anne Mackay, Finance Manager Education, Tel: 07795 256545, amackay@swindon.gov.uk

2) Completion of Online Monitoring Forecasts

As part of the budget monitoring reporting process the LA is required to report to Corporate Board how active Budget Managers have been in contributing to the on line information used to collate period end information. For DSG service areas the end of January completion rate decreased by 2.7% to 83.8% (31/37).

The Leadership Team is asked to remind Budget Managers of the importance of this exercise and to encourage continued high participation for the remainder of the year.

3) High Risk Areas and Latest Projections

Commentaries on all the main variances have been identified and those areas of the budget, which are inherently high-risk, and therefore have the potential to significantly affect the overall position, are provided below.

Table 2 – Latest Budget Monitoring Position				
Item	Notes	Budget 2017-18 £'000	Projected Variance Jan 18 £'000	Projected Variance Dec 17 £'000
<u>High-Risk Areas</u>				
2 year old nursery place funding	2	2,059	(180)	(180)
Free nursery education 3 & 4 year olds	3	11,574	(389)	(389)
High Needs Top ups (Mainstream and High Needs)	4	11,882	303	310
Notional SEN supplements (Mainstream)		400	0	0
External Placement Fees	5	2,407	100	100
HN Contingency	6	65	44	44
Post 16 HN Provision - New Responsibilities	7	1,875	(201)	(83)
School Exclusions / Dual registrations	8	(335)	(80)	(80)
Tuition Service	9	881	(63)	(12)
Schools Equal Pay Claims		31	0	0
Subtotal High Risk Areas		30,838	(466)	(290)
Other Low risk retained budgets	10	2,508	53	115
Total Retained Budgets		33,346	(413)	(175)
Maintained School Budgets (Mainstream)	11	43,164	(123)	(123)
Maintained School Budgets (Specialist Settings)		7,854	(5)	(5)
Commissioned Services		1,034	(0)	(0)
ESFA 6 th Form Place Funding		(510)	0	0
Total DSG School Budgets		51,541	(128)	(128)
Total DSG Expenditure Budgets		84,888	(541)	(303)
Mainstream Academy budgets for recoupment		82,597	0	0
ESFA direct funding of High Need places	12	2,147	104	104
ESFA direct funding of Post 16 transfer FE Colleges		1,484	0	0

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Anne Mackay, Finance Manager Education, Tel: 07795 256545, amackay@swindon.gov.uk

Total DSG Budget		171,116	(437)	(199)
DSG Funding allocation receivable	1	(84,888)	668	668
DSG Funding recouped ESFA for Academies		(82,597)	0	0
DSG Funding recouped ESFA for HN places	1	(2,147)	(104)	(104)
ESFA Post 16 transfer FE Colleges		(1,484)	0	0
Total DSG Funding Budgets		(171,116)	564	564
Total DSG Forecast		0	127	365

The Leadership Team is asked to note the risk areas above and the actual out-turn position, £0.127m above budget, will be reported to Corporate Management Team this month.

The main reasons for the variances from budget are provided below:

Note 1) DSG Funding Receivable

£0.668m decreased funding

Budget allocation

The budgeted DSG allocation is **£171.116m** including funding for Early Years Pupil Premium and an estimate of the DSG based on January 2017 and January 2018 census for 2 year olds and 3 & 4 year olds. As reported in previous years the LA budgets for the full DSG allocation from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) but the actual cash received is the DSG allocation less Academy Recoupment, High Need places funded directly by the ESFA and ESFA Post 16 Transfer for Further Education Colleges, new for 2017-18. The budgeted DSG receivable is **£84.888m**.

Actual receipt

As reported previously and at **(A)** in table 3 below, after allowing for academy recoupment and ESFA Direct funding of HN places in Pre and Post 16 the 2017-18 DSG expected to be received is **£84.218m**, an overall variance in funding in 2017-18 of **£0.671m** when compared to budget. This reduction in funding is due to lower than anticipated census data for Early Years pupils for 2 year olds **£0.186m** (note 2) and 3 & 4 year olds **£0.380m** (note 3).

Included in the variance is **£0.104m** due to a late notification from the ESFA that the LA needs to fund the Element 2 for 26 places at a provision in a different local authority (note 12), which reduces the value of the DSG funding receivable.

The ESFA have finalised the January 2017 spring census and the final numbers for 2 year olds were slightly higher than anticipated and for 3 & 4 year olds were slightly lower than anticipated at year end leading to the receipt of an additional **£0.003m**. As shown at **(B)** in Table 3 below, the total DSG expected to be received is **£84.221m**, an overall adverse variance of **£0.668m** when compared to the DSG budget allocation.

<u>Table 3 – 2017-18 DSG receivable</u>			
Allocation	Budget £m	Expected £m	Variance £m
ESFA's DSG Allocation	(157.482)	(157.482)	0.000
ESFA DSG Early Years for 2 year olds	(2.059)	(1.873)	0.186
ESFA DSG Early Years for 3 & 4 year olds	(10.094)	(9.714)	0.380

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Anne Mackay, Finance Manager Education, Tel: 07795 256545, amackay@swindon.gov.uk

ESFA DSG Early Years 30 Hours implementation	(1.351)	(1.351)	0.000
ESFA DSG Early Years Pupil Premium	(0.129)	(0.129)	0.000
Total DSG allocation	(171.116)	(170.550)	0.567
Less Academy recoupment	82.597	82.597	0.000
Less ESFA Direct Funding of High Need places	2.147	2.251	0.104
Less ESFA Transfer for Post 16 FE Colleges	1.484	1.484	0.000
(A) DSG receivable 2017-18	(84.888)	(84.218)	0.671
Early Years Spring 17 Census 2 yr olds	0.000	(0.011)	(0.011)
Early Years Spring 17 Census 3 & 4 yr olds	0.000	0.009	0.009
Early Years Spring 17 census Pupil Premium	0.000	(0.001)	(0.001)
(B) DSG expected to be received in year 17-18	(84.888)	(84.221)	0.668

**Note 2 – Disadvantaged two year old nursery funding £0.180m Decreased expenditure
£0.186m Decreased funding**

As reported previously the take up of 2 year old places increased by 30 places to December but the cost for the overall take up for the year is still expected to be **£0.180m** lower than the budget of £2.059m in line with fewer places taken up overall than budgeted in the January 2017 pupil census. Expenditure for Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) settings is expected to be **£0.454m** below budget offset by Maintained setting expenditure which is expected to be **£0.274m** above budget.

The funding is based on the actual pupil numbers at the spring census 2017 (5/12ths) and spring census 2018 (7/12ths). The confirmed spring 2017 census numbers were lower than anticipated and are expected to be at a similar level in the spring 2018 census so the funding forecast has been recalculated. The ESFA will not confirm the funding until July 2018 so the actual funding expected for 2017-18 is an estimate. Funding for early years is now calculated on the number of part time equivalents rather than full time equivalents.

Table 4 – Early Years 2 year old 2017-18 DSG Funding		
	2017-18 Budget	2017-18 Projection
January 2017 Census PTE (5/12) (confirmed)	679	600.00
January 2018 Census PTE (7/12)	679	630.48
Full Year Equivalent	679	617.78
2 year old funding rate per PTE	£3,032.40	£3,032.40
Total DSG receivable	£2,059,000	£1,873,349
Variance		(£185,651)

The estimated net decrease in 2 year old pupils of 61.22 PTE will also result in a **£0.186m** reduction of DSG. These projections have been updated following the final Autumn Term payments and will be updated again at year end.

**Note 3 – Free nursery education (3 & 4 year olds): £0.389m Decreased expenditure
£0.380m Decreased funding**

As reported previously, the 2017-18 forecast position for 3 & 4 year olds is **£0.389m** lower than budget based on the confirmed spring 17 census take up. The expenditure in Maintained settings is expected to be **£0.126m** less than budget and in Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) settings the expenditure is expected to be **£0.263m** less than budget.

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Anne Mackay, Finance Manager Education, Tel: 07795 256545, amackay@swindon.gov.uk

This element of DSG is based on participation and the LA anticipates that along with the decrease in expenditure there will also be a decrease in the amount of Dedicated Schools Grant receivable as the PTE numbers were lower than budgeted in the recent spring census.

The budget for 3 & 4 year olds includes £1.351m for the 30 Hours Early Implementer scheme, the actual expenditure for this budget is currently expected to be in line with budget. The Pupil Premium expected to be paid through the 3 & 4 year olds budget is **£0.129m** and at this point in the year is also expected to be in line with budget.

The ESFA will not confirm the funding until July 2018 so the funding projection is still provisional. Early Years DSG is calculated based on 5/12ths of the confirmed January 2017 census and 7/12ths of the January 2018 Early Years Census. The latest DSG calculation compared to the 2017-18 budget agreed by Schools Forum is summarised below and is now on Part Time Equivalent (PTE).

Table 5 – Early Years 3 and 4 year old 2017-18 DSG Funding		
	2017-18 Budget	2017-18 Projection
January 2017 Census PTE (5/12) (confirmed)	3,880	3,733.20
January 2018 Census PTE (7/12)	3,880	3,733.13
Full Year Equivalent number of PTE	3,880	3,7433.16
3 and 4 year old funding rate	£2,587.38	£2,587.38
Subtotal DSG receivable	£10,039,034	£9,659,102
Disability Access Fund	£55,300	£55,300
Total DSG receivable	£10,094,300	£9,714,402
Variance		(£379,899)

The estimated net decrease in early years' pupils of approximately 146.84 PTE will result in a **£0.380m** reduction of DSG. This forecast will be updated at year end.

Note 4 – High Needs Top ups:

£0.303m Pressure

The forecast for expenditure is now expected to be **£0.303m** above budget. There have been a number of adjustments to both the bandings and number of pupils supported in mainstream, a net decrease of £0.007m in HN top ups since last month.

Note 5 – External placements:

£0.100m Pressure

As reported previously the overall pressure in external placements is expected to be **£0.100m** and decisions about the share of costs are still being made.

Note 6 – High Needs Contingency:

£0.044m Pressure

During the 2017-18 budget setting process Schools Forum agreed that a contingency of £0.065m would be held to cover additional high need top up and external placements costs. **£0.109m** will be used to support a school in financial difficulty with Alternative Provision for some of its pupils and provide educational and leadership support. This means that a pressure of £0.044m will be reported and there is no remaining budget to offset the emerging pressures in high Needs Top ups £0.310m (note 4) and External Placement fees £0.100m (note 5). There is an overall pressure between the three budgets of £0.454m, and there continues to be inherent risks with these demand led budgets.

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Anne Mackay, Finance Manager Education, Tel: 07795 256545, amackay@swindon.gov.uk

Note 7 – Post 16 HN Provision:**£0.201m Below budget**

The forecast for Post 16 provision has updated now that the impact of the new academic year intake has been assessed and a favourable forecast position of **£0.201m** below budget has been projected. Following work to establish the destination for unconfirmed pupils the contingency has been reduced although a provision for 78 pupils whose destination is yet to be established has been retained.

Note 8 – School Exclusions:**£0.080m Below budget**

As reported previously during the previous academic year Swindon experienced a high rate of permanent exclusions and this has generated significantly higher levels of income than anticipated £0.130m, however short term placements are reducing (£0.050m), a net favourable forecast position of **£0.080m** below budget is projected.

Note 9 – Tuition Service:**£0.063m Below budget**

Saving as project commitment reduced from full to part year **£0.012m**, a reduction in demand for home tutors combined with staff leavers has increased favourable position by **£0.051m**.

Note 10 – Low risk budgets:**£0.053m Above Budget**

A new saving has been projected following the final Pupil Growth (Trigger Funding) payments **£0.056m** and has been added to savings in the pooled equipment budget **£0.019m** and other minor savings **£0.010m**. These savings are offset by pressures in Admissions **£0.003m**, and The Oakfield Project for the 2017/18 academic year **£0.120m** as agreed by Schools Forum. There has been a further increase in a pressure on Business Rates (NNDR) payable for nursery buildings that have been taken over by maintained schools **£0.015m**.

Note 11 – School Budgets (Mainstream):**£0.123m Below Budget**

The ESFA have confirmed the recoupment adjustment for pupil growth, a saving of **£0.123m**.

Note 12 – ESFA recoupment for academies and HN places:**£0.104m Pressure**

The ESFA have recouped Element 2 funding to pay directly to a High Needs setting, the LA was informed of this in March 2017 **£0.104m**.

The Leadership Team is asked to note the actual out-turn position.

3) DSG Balance

In accordance with DfE grant conditions the DSG must be treated by the LA as being ring fenced for specified educational purposes and, in addition to consulting the Schools Forum on how each year's grant is allocated, the Forum must also be advised on any year end surplus or deficits. The forecast year end position incorporates agreement made at the March 2017 Schools Forum and is as follows:

Table 6 – DSG Balance	Latest Position
Opening DSG balance brought forward from 2016-17	£0.568m
Less support to St Luke's School (Schools Forum July 2017)	(£0.022m)
Less forecast year-end position (see table 2)	(£0.127m)
Actual DSG balance unallocated	£0.419m

At the 4th July Schools Forum meeting, the Schools Forum representatives agreed a one off use of £0.022m of the DSG brought forward balance to support St Luke's School.

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Anne Mackay, Finance Manager Education, Tel: 07795 256545, amackay@swindon.gov.uk

The Leadership Team is asked to note that the unallocated DSG balance is expected to be £0.181m and that all expenditure funded from this balance will need to be allowed under the Early Years and School finance regulations and be agreed by Schools Forum.

4) Subjective Analysis

The table below shows a summary of the latest projected position of £0.413m across the £33.346m centrally retained budget by type of expenditure, compared to the budget profiles is shown below. This presents a different view to the more traditional analysis by service area. This is a standard table used by the Finance Team which has been included in the DSG report to improve consistency.

Subjective analysis Delegated DSG January 2018

Group Budget position by expenditure type	Year to date budget £'000	Year to date actual £'000	Year to date variance £'000	Total Budget 2017/18 £'000	Forecast Variance 2017/18 £'000
Employees	1,310	1,234	(76)	1,571	(63)
Premises	1,049	1,045	(4)	1,098	15
Transport	11	10	(1)	13	(1)
Supplies & Services	1,076	1,923	847	1,374	717
3rd Party Payments	27,019	26,142	(876)	35,043	(634)
Internal Recharges	1,902	1,889	(13)	1,938	(11)
Capital Financing	0	0	0	0	0
Income	(6,452)	(5,968)	484	(7,691)	(436)
Total	25,914	26,275	360	33,346	(413)

To better understand the above table the following annexes are attached to this report.

- **Annex A** – this shows a breakdown of all the 2017-18 retained budgets by type of expenditure and income and produces the totals in the “Total budget 2017-18” column in table 7 above
- **Annex B** – this shows a breakdown of each services profiled budget to date compared with actual spend to date. This will present useful information for both year to date actuals and full year projections. The aim is to highlight and address variances now, rather than wait until nearer the year end where late changes undermine confidence in our reporting.

The Leadership Team is asked to note the addition of subjective analysis information and the continued need to agree realistic budget profiles for input to the oracle system.

5) Improving Forecasting

Given that we are accountable to the Schools Forum regarding the effective management of the DSG, meetings with senior Budget Managers will be scheduled through to the end of 2017-18 to take place shortly after the month end forecasting deadlines. This will enable all high risk forecast figures to be regularly challenged and this enabled the wider budget position to be assessed, particularly on high need budgets, prior to reporting through to corporate board and in some months the Schools Forum.

6) Summary of Key Recommendations

The Leadership Team is asked to:-

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Anne Mackay, Finance Manager Education, Tel: 07795 256545, amackay@swindon.gov.uk

- Note that the forecast out-turn position, which is a projection of £0.127m above budget, will be reported to Corporate Board this month
- Note the risk areas above, the forecast out-turn position and suggested actions
- Note the Schools Forum agreement to use £0.022m of DSG reserves to support one school
- Note that the unallocated DSG balance will be £0.419m.

Schools Forum 20th March 2018 – DSG Retained Budget Monitoring Report

DSG Budget Analysis by Expenditure Type

Appendix B

Service Area	2017/18 Budgets by Expenditure Type								
	Employees £'000	Premises £'000	Transport £'000	Supplies & Services £'000	3rd Party Payments £'000	Internal Recharges £'000	Capital Financing £'000	Income £'000	Total £'000
Free nursery education (3&4 year olds)	324.5	-	2.0	0.1	11,567.5	75.3	-	(395.2)	11,574.2
Pupil Premium and other grants	-	-	-	-	3,499.7	-	-	(3,499.7)	-
School subscriptions	-	-	-	194.5	-	-	-	(50.6)	143.9
Disadvantaged two year olds	-	-	-	-	2,059.0	-	-	-	2,059.0
Equal Pay	-	-	-	-	-	31.0	-	-	31.0
Central Charges	-	-	-	-	-	1,409.8	-	(277.1)	1,132.7
LAC Pupil Premium	-	-	-	478.9	-	17.0	-	(495.9)	-
DSG NNDR	-	1,014.8	-	-	-	-	-	(1,014.8)	-
Nyland Primary Behaviour Support	-	-	-	128.1	-	-	-	(128.1)	-
Trade Union Facilities	15.5	-	-	7.7	-	-	-	(23.2)	-
Schools' Forum	-	-	-	2.0	-	-	-	-	2.0
Trigger funding	-	-	-	-	533.9	-	-	-	533.9
Pupil Growth set up costs	-	-	-	-	46.0	-	-	-	46.0
Admissions	218.6	-	0.3	4.7	-	42.9	-	(35.4)	231.1
Free School Meals administration	-	-	-	-	-	22.3	-	(22.3)	-
Therapy	-	-	-	-	-	125.0	-	-	125.0
High Needs top ups	-	-	-	-	11,865.5	16.2	-	-	11,881.7
Statemented Pupils Equipment	-	-	-	24.0	-	106.0	-	-	130.0
Education Support Services Monitoring	-	-	-	-	-	10.0	-	-	10.0
Out of Borough fees	-	-	-	-	2,886.6	-	-	(480.0)	2,406.6
Travellers children	-	-	-	-	2.0	-	-	-	2.0
Tuition Services	626.6	25.8	6.5	43.5	119.9	1.2	-	(23.0)	800.5
Post 16 new responsibilities	-	-	-	-	2,063.3	-	-	(188.3)	1,875.0
Broadband Connectivity	-	-	-	383.8	-	-	-	(383.8)	-
The Oakfield project	222.2	47.4	2.2	11.1	-	-	-	(282.9)	-
Portage	163.4	10.4	2.1	1.3	-	0.5	-	(26.0)	151.7
Notional SEN	-	-	-	-	400.0	-	-	-	400.0
School Exclusions	-	-	-	30.0	-	80.3	-	(365.0)	(254.7)
High Needs Contingency	-	-	-	64.6	-	-	-	-	64.6
Expense Category Totals	1,570.8	1,098.4	13.1	1,374.3	35,043.4	1,937.5	0.0	(7,691.3)	33,346.2

Further information on this report can be obtained from Anne Mackay, Finance Manager Education, Tel: 07795 256545, amackay@swindon.gov.uk.

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Schools Forum 20th March 2018 – DSG Retained Budget Monitoring Report

End of January 2018 Budget Monitoring

Appendix C

Service	Budget to date	Actual to date	Variance to date	Full Year budget	Full year forecast	Full Year Variance
Free Nursery Education Commissioning - three & four year olds	£7,603,946	£8,947,073	£1,343,127	£11,574,200	£11,185,434	(£388,766)
DFE Additional Grants	£291,635	(£416,788)	(£708,423)	£0	£0	£0
School subscriptions	£143,900	£143,867	(£33)	£143,900	£143,900	£0
Free Nursery Education Commissioning - two year olds	£1,372,666	£1,655,095	£282,429	£2,059,000	£1,879,032	(£179,968)
DSG Retained Equal Pay	£31,000	£31,000	£0	£31,000	£31,000	£0
DSG Retained Contingency	£1,132,700	£1,139,271	£6,571	£1,132,700	£1,132,700	£0
LAC pupil premium	(£123,975)	£350,676	£474,651	£0	£0	£0
6th form SEN	(£425,000)	(£433,400)	(£8,400)	(£510,000)	(£510,000)	£0
DSG NNDR	£0	£15,279	£15,279	£0	£15,200	£15,200
Universal Infant Free School Meals	£0	(£692)	(£692)	£0	£0	£0
Nyland Primary Behaviour Support	(£21,350)	(£12,303)	£9,047	£0	£0	£0
Trade Union Facilities	(£2,580)	(£8,653)	(£6,073)	£0	(£330)	(£330)
Schools' Forum	£1,660	£1,291	(£369)	£2,000	£2,000	£0
Pupil Growth Trigger Funding	£533,900	£500,179	(£33,721)	£533,900	£477,200	(£56,700)
Pupil Growth Set Up Costs	£46,000	£23,000	(£23,000)	£46,000	£46,000	£0
Admissions	£198,430	£177,027	(£21,403)	£231,100	£234,400	£3,300
Free School Meals administration	£2,070	£8,653	£6,583	£0	£0	£0
Therapy	£93,750	£93,750	£0	£125,000	£125,000	£0
SEN Resourcing Assessment Panel	£9,901,340	£9,897,994	(£3,346)	£11,881,700	£12,184,549	£302,849
Statemented Pupils Equipment	£126,000	£108,516	(£17,484)	£130,000	£111,500	(£18,500)
Quality Assurance of commissioned services	£10,000	£10,000	£0	£10,000	£10,000	£0
Out of Borough School Fees	£2,045,480	£1,524,641	(£520,839)	£2,406,600	£2,506,600	£100,000
Travellers Children	£1,660	£210	(£1,450)	£2,000	£1,000	(£1,000)
Tuition Service	£648,582	£613,531	(£35,051)	£800,500	£737,320	(£63,180)
Post 16 - New Responsibilities	£1,531,100	£1,483,070	(£48,030)	£1,875,000	£1,674,380	(£200,620)
Broadband Connectivity	£0	£105,779	£105,779	£0	£0	£0
The Oakfield Project	(£6,765)	(£506)	£6,259	£0	£120,000	£120,000
Portage	£113,610	£124,886	£11,276	£151,700	£144,760	(£6,940)
Notional SEN	£400,000	£0	(£400,000)	£400,000	£400,000	£0
School Exclusions and short term placements	(£160,532)	(£293,802)	(£133,270)	(£254,700)	(£335,060)	(£80,360)
High Needs Contingency	£0	£51,812	£51,812	£64,600	£108,800	£44,200
OVERALL TOTAL	£25,914,227	£26,273,858	£359,631	£33,346,200	£32,935,385	(£410,815)

Further information on this report can be obtained from Anne Mackay, Finance Manager Education, Tel: 07795 256545, amackay@swindon.gov.uk.

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2018/19 Dedicated Schools Grant Budget

Schools Forum

Date: 20th March 2017

Author: Finance Manager – Education

Wards: All

Locality Affected: All

Parishes Affected: All

1. Purpose and Reasons

- 1.1 The Schools Forum meeting on 17th January 2018 received a report on the 2018/19 Dedicated Schools Grant Settlement and Budget. This report provides members with an update on various issues that have arisen since that meeting. This report addresses:
1. Alternative Provision and Learning Review
 2. High Needs update
 3. Early Years and Childcare Sufficiency update
 4. The Oakfield Project update
 5. 2018/19 SRP supplement funding
- 1.2 The LA is required to submit the Section 251 Budget Statement to the ESFA by 30th April 2018. An integral part of this financial statement is the use of the Dedicated Schools Grant. Schools Forum is required to agree various aspects of the DSG budget, and the LA is required to consider the recommendations of the Schools Forum in setting the remainder of the Dedicated Schools Grant Budget.
- 1.3 These proposals contribute towards delivering the Council Vision Priority “Offer education opportunities that lead to the right skills and right jobs in the right places.”

2. Recommendations

The Schools Forum is recommended to:

- 2.1 Note the significance and continuation of the Alternative Provision Review as detailed in (Para 3.2 - 3.4).
 - 2.2 Note the update on the intended actions in 2018-19 to address the issues around sufficiency for high needs provision within the future envelope of the high needs budget allocation (Para. 3.5 – 3.11)
 - 2.3 Note the update on bid applications for the Early Years and Childcare Sufficiency Grant (Para. 3.12 – 3.16)
 - 2.4 Note the update on the Oakfield Project (Para. 3.17 – 3.25)
-

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Anne Mackay, Finance Manager - Education on 07795 256545 or amackay@swindon.gov.uk

2018/19 Dedicated Schools Grant Budget

Schools Forum

Date: 20th March 2017

- 2.5 Note that the projected in year project deficit is expected to be lower than previously predicted (Para. 3.19)
- 2.6 Agree that the project's year-end balance which will include the current in year balance already agreed plus the historic financial deficit is funded by the DSG (Para. 3.20)
- 2.7 Agree that commissioned places at the Oakfield Project from September 2018 are charged to Swindon schools and academies at £0.012m per place for the academic 2018/19 year (Para. 3.23)
- 2.8 Note the LA proposal in relation to the new SRP supplement funding (Para. 3.27)
- 2.9 Note the calculation of funding due to schools and academies (Appendix A) and the anticipated payment dates (Para. 3.30)

3. Detail

Settings

- 3.1 The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is ring fenced funding provided by the Department for Education (DfE) to meet the educational needs of early years, school age and all 0 to 25 year old high need pupils, any decisions on how the grant is utilised indirectly affects all settings.

Alternative Provision Review

- 3.2 The Alternative Provision review and consultation with schools is still underway and as part of the review officers are developing a town wide inclusion protocol. An update will be provided to the July Schools Forum meeting.
- 3.3 Currently Alternative Provision is struggling to meet demands for its service in both the primary and secondary sectors. There is a need to develop inclusive SEMH practice and expertise in mainstream schools and academies and reduce the demand for Alternative Provision.
- 3.4 More information may be obtained from Marie Horton, Education Commissioner 07341 077537 mhorton@swindon.gov.uk.

Members of Schools Forum are now asked to:

- **Note the significance and continuation of the Alternative Provision Review (Para. 3.2 – 3.4)**

2018/19 Dedicated Schools Grant Budget

Schools Forum

Date: 20th March 2017

High Needs update

- 3.5 The transfer of 0.5% schools block (£0.659m) to the high needs block was approved in the expectation that schools forum would be appraised of the intended action in 2018-19 to address the issues around sufficiency for high needs provision within the future envelope of the high needs budget allocation.
 - 3.6 The growth in child population continues to be out-matched by the growth in demand for high needs funding at SEN Support and EHCP level.
 - 3.7 The SEND Strategic Board is developing a broad programme of activity to address sufficiency and quality for the local offer for Special Educational Needs and Disability in Swindon.
 - 3.8 Seven work streams have been proposed which includes work stream five which is a whole system approach to SEND. A key programme within this work stream is the implementation of the high needs review report which will need to address banding methodology and moderation, and the application of guidance regarding decision making at the point where an EHC assessment is being considered. The Strategic Commissioner - Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) and her leadership team are currently exploring how this work can be resourced.
 - 3.9 The following reviews and strategy developments are underway:
 - 3.9.1 Review of the advisory services.
 - 3.9.2 Quality review of the specialist resource provisions.
 - 3.9.3 Development of a SEND Sufficiency strategy (place planning).
 - 3.9.4 Work to maximise the opportunities made available through successful applications for new Free schools/nurseries.
 - 3.9.5 Increased capacity in mainstream for social, emotional and mental health ('SEMH') needs.
 - 3.9.6 A head teacher's focus group is scheduled for the 19th April to review the proposed action plan for the high needs review implementation.
 - 3.10 The strategic action plan also includes work on joint commissioning, early help and a consistency in approach to the education offer for universal and targeted (SEN Support).
 - 3.11 Further information may be obtained from Roz Pither, Strategic Commissioner Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) 07823 525243
rpither@swindon.gov.uk
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Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Anne Mackay, Finance Manager - Education on 07795 256545 or amackay@swindon.gov.uk

2018/19 Dedicated Schools Grant Budget

Schools Forum

Date: 20th March 2017

Members of Schools Forum are now asked to:

- **Note the update on the intended actions in 2018-19 to address the issues around sufficiency for high needs provision within the future envelope of the high needs budget allocation (Para. 3.5 – 3.11)**

Early Years and Childcare Sufficiency Grant

- 3.12 At 17th January meeting Schools Forum members approved the use of the 2017/18 extended hours entitlement for 3&4 year olds retained funding or any reserves created from an underspend of the Early Years to a maximum total of £0.350m. This funding will be used to create additional Early Years places as identified by the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment report.
- 3.13 To update forum members, as this paper was being prepared bids applications were being invited for the Early Years and Childcare Sufficiency Grant with a deadline of 5pm, Thursday 8th March 2018.
- 3.14 Following this deadline, bids received will be assessed against criteria and a complete list of approved bids will be produced.
- 3.15 A verbal update will be provided during the meeting outlining the total number of bids received, those which have been successful and total number of places to be created.
- 3.16 More information may be obtained from Danielle Maundrell, Strategic Commissioning Manager – Early Years Planning 07769 281726 dmaundrell@swindon.gov.uk

Members of Schools Forum are now asked to:

- **Note the update on bid applications for the Early Years and Childcare Sufficiency Grant (Para. 3.12 – 3.16)**

Oakfield Project Update

- 3.17 The Oakfield project has been a successful Key Stage 4 pre-exclusion setting which has provided for between 30 to 35 pupils at risk of exclusion. Until 2010 the Oakfield Project was the Youth Education Project but at that time the LA forecast that it was no longer cost effective to run so it planned to close the provision. At the time secondary schools felt that it should continue so in discussion with the LA six schools agreed to continue the service. The staff are still employed by the local authority but the finances and running of the project

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Anne Mackay, Finance Manager - Education on 07795 256545 or amackay@swindon.gov.uk

2018/19 Dedicated Schools Grant Budget

Schools Forum

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have been led by the schools. The financial lead has been through St Joseph's Catholic College with the Head of Commonweal chairing and organising the management committee. The Head of the Tuition Service has had nominal management responsibility for the project. The academies involved in 2010 were St Joseph's Catholic College, The Dorcan Academy, The Commonweal School, Nova Hreod Academy, Lawn Manor Academy and Lydiard Park Academy. St Joseph's College as the financial lead academy was regularly invoiced by the LA for the employer and premises costs to date. No legal agreements were signed at the time between the local authority and schools or between the secondary schools involved in the Oakfield management committee

- 3.18 As notified in the Oakfield Project report to 5th December Schools Forum the project became financially unsustainable last year due to financial challenges faced by schools in recent years leading to the level of funding decreasing as partner academies were less willing to commit to funding places. Although there was an increase in overheads and salary costs the level of funding received for each commissioned place remained at the same level as 2010 and places are now purchased on an ad hoc basis by commissioning schools and academies.
- 3.19 Swindon Borough Council put in place a management committee to manage The Oakfield Project at the start of the 2017/18 academic year and recently notified Schools Forum of a potential in year overspend of £0.120m. Schools Forum are requested to note that it is now anticipated that the projected overspend will be lower following a review of costs and due to savings made by the project.
- 3.20 The project also has a historical deficit that has now been confirmed at £0.140m that was accrued to August 2017 and St Joseph's Catholic College, the financial lead academy, has paid over the net funding they have received and has endeavoured to recoup the historical deficit from the previous partners. At the close of the 2017/18 accounts in April, it is likely that the LA will need to make a provision for this amount as it appears doubtful that the invoices raised will be settled in full. The staffing and premises costs for the Oakfield Project are within the DSG and although to 2016/17 the costs were repaid in full by the lead academy, the 2017/18 year end provision means that there is a further financial implication for the DSG. Schools Forum members are asked to agree that the Project's year-end balance which will include the current in year deficit already agreed plus the historic financial deficit is funded by the DSG.
- 3.21 In 2018/19 a budget of £0.150m has been allocated to complement the commissioned place income to enable the Oakfield Project to remain financially sustainable for the financial year while a long term solution for the project is agreed.
- 3.22 Based on the current model the cost of a place at Oakfield is estimated to be approximately £0.015m, however the project's staffing establishment needs to be

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Anne Mackay, Finance Manager - Education on 07795 256545 or amackay@swindon.gov.uk

2018/19 Dedicated Schools Grant Budget

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urgently reviewed as it has been maintained at a minimum since September 2017.

- 3.23 It is anticipated that the true cost of a place will be nearer £0.018m, which is in line with other Alternative Provision. It is proposed that the £0.150m budget is used to partially offset the cost of a place for Swindon academies and maintained schools and that they will be charged £0.012m per place from September 2018. This annual charge will be for all places taken up in the project by a Swindon pupil from September 2018. A charging policy for places commissioned by other LAs is being considered by the management committee, but are expected to be at least £0.018m per place. Schools Forum are asked to agree that commissioned places at the Oakfield Project from September 2018 are charged to Swindon schools and academies at £0.012m per place for the academic 2018/19 year.
- 3.24 It is proposed that an updated charging protocol is drawn up by the LA, this will be shared with schools and academies in due course.
- 3.25 A further update on the Oakfield Project will be reported to Schools Forum in July 2018.

Members of Schools Forum are now asked to:

- **Note the update on the Oakfield Project (Para. 3.17 – 3.25)**
- **Note that the projected in year project deficit is expected to be lower than previously predicted (Para. 3.19)**
- **Agree that the project's year-end balance which will include the current in year balance already agreed plus the historic financial deficit is funded by the DSG (Para. 3.20)**
- **Agree that commissioned places at the Oakfield Project from September 2018 are charged to Swindon schools and academies at £0.012m per place for the academic 2018/19 year (Para. 3.23)**

2018/19 SRP supplement funding

- 3.26 At 17th January meeting it was proposed that a new supplement be provided for pupils in Special Resource Provisions ('SRP') that do not receive an average of £4,000 of mainstream funding as calculated by the Authority Pro-forma Tool ('APT'), which is the government issued tool used to calculate school and academy budgets. In 2018/19 a budget of £0.057m has been created for the new supplement.

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Anne Mackay, Finance Manager - Education on 07795 256545 or amackay@swindon.gov.uk

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- 3.27 The Education and Skills Funding Agency ('ESFA') have confirmed that the change in SRP funding will apply to maintained schools with an SRP from April 2018 and to academies from September 2018. The LA proposes that the SRP supplement funding is allocated to eligible schools and eligible academies from the date of the change of funding, therefore a full year for maintained schools and for pro-rata (7/12ths) for academies.
- 3.28 As previously notified to Schools Forum the 2018/19 schools funding formula for secondary age pupils to be funded at a minimum per pupil funding level of £4,600, so it is anticipated that only primary schools will be eligible as the minimum per pupil funding for a primary pupil is £3,300.
- 3.29 The 'Post MFG minimum per pupil funding per pupil rate' as calculated by the APT has been used to decide the eligible schools and academies. Primary and secondary schools and academies with SRPs have been included in the check. Only commissioned places filled by SRP pupils in Reception to Year 11 and in receipt of mainstream funding as well as £6,000 place funding will be on the APT and therefore checked for eligibility
- 3.30 The schedule at **Appendix A** details the calculation of funding due to schools and academies with SRPs. It is anticipated that payments will be made to maintained schools in May 2018 and to academies in September 2018.

Members of Schools Forum are now asked to:

- **Note the LA proposal in relation to the SRP supplement funding (Para. 3.27)**
- **Note the calculation of funding due to schools and academies (Appendix A) and the anticipated payment dates (Para. 3.30)**

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 Members of the Forum may provide alternatives in the course of the meeting.

5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 Various financial implications are included in this report relating to management of the retained DSG budget.

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Anne Mackay, Finance Manager - Education on 07795 256545 or amackay@swindon.gov.uk

2018/19 Dedicated Schools Grant Budget

Schools Forum

Date: 20th March 2017

Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 5.2 Legal and Human rights implications have been taken into account in preparing this report. It is considered that the recommendations are compatible with Convention Rights.

All Other Implications (including Staff, Sustainability, Health, Rural, Crime and Disorder)

- 5.3 No additional implications were raised in the preparation of this report.

Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.4 The proposals within this report are designed to allocate funding targeted at disadvantaged pupils and at pupils with low prior attainment and / or special education needs in order to narrow the attainment gap between these and other pupils.

Risk Management

- 5.5 Any specific risk management implications are highlighted in the body of the report.

6. Consultees

- 6.1 The Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 None.

8. Appendices

- 8.1 Appendix A - 2018/19 SRP Supplement for SRP provisions not funded at average of £4,000 mainstream funding per pupil

2018/19 SRP Supplement for SRP provisions not funded at average of £4,000 mainstream funding per pupil

School Name	Commissioned Places filled by pupils Yr R to Yr 11 as at October 17 Census	Minimum per pupil funding: post MFG minimum funding per pupil rate	Academy Y/N	Difference between Minimum per pupil and £4,000	Receives at least an average of £4,000 of mainstream funding per SRP pupil	Funding allocation for full year (Apr-Mar)	Funding allocation for part year (Sept-Mar)
Eldene Nursery and Primary School	8	£4,033.98	N	£33.98	Yes, no funding due	£0.00	£0.00
Even Swindon Primary School	15	£3,668.55	N	(£331.45)	No	£4,971.68	£0.00
Kingsdown School	15	£5,003.00	Y	£1,003.00	Yes, no funding due	£0.00	£0.00
Lydiard Park Academy	13	£4,866.64	Y	£866.64	Yes, no funding due	£0.00	£0.00
Millbrook Primary School	9	£3,854.34	Y	(£145.66)	No	£0.00	£764.71
Red Oaks Primary School	19	£3,362.17	N	(£637.83)	No	£12,118.80	£0.00
Robert Le Kyng Primary School	10	£3,624.75	N	(£375.25)	No	£3,752.45	£0.00
Ruskin Junior School	9	£3,870.82	Y	(£129.18)	No	£0.00	£678.20
The Commonweal School	38	£4,774.73	Y	£774.73	Yes, no funding due	£0.00	£0.00
The Ridgeway School & Sixth Form College	19	£4,600.00	Y	£600.00	Yes, no funding due	£0.00	£0.00
Westlea Primary School	8	£3,747.72	Y	(£252.28)	No	£0.00	£1,177.32
						£20,842.93	£2,620.23

DSG Budget 2018/19	£57,000.00
Projected expenditure	£23,463.16
Forecast below budget 18/19	(£33,536.84)

Further information can be obtained from Anne Mackay, Finance Manager - Education 07795 256545 amackay@swindon.gov.uk

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