

# Final Dedicated Schools Grant Outturn 2016/17

**Schools Forum**

**Date: 4<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

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Author: Finance Manager Education

Wards: All

Locality Affected: All

Parishes Affected: All

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## **1. Purpose and Reasons**

- 1.1 To advise Schools Forum members on the final 2016-17 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) outturn position following closure of the Local Authority's (LA's) 2016-17 final accounts
- 1.2 This report provides Forum Members with information on the final spend against the 2016-17 centrally retained budget. Although there is demand-led pressure in many areas of the retained budget, the LA is continuing to take action wherever possible to reduce centrally retained budgets in order to maximise the value of DSG that can be distributed to Schools and Academies via the local fair funding formula
- 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 and Cabinet.
- 1.4 The LA is required to report the position on the DSG budget to the Schools Forum throughout the year and at the financial year end. 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
- 1.5 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 actual outturn position for the 2016-17 retained budget was £0.359m below budget.

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## 3. Detail

### Final DSG Retained Outturn 2016-17

- 3.1 As reported to Schools Forum on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2017 the overall value of the 2016-17 centrally retained DSG budget was £31.498m, including £0.803m of 30 Hours Implementation Funding.
- 3.2 Attached at Appendix A is the report that was issued to the Education Leadership Team based on information at the end of the financial year. This shows that the final out-turn position was £0.359m below the overall budget (subject to external audit). The main reasons for the projected variances and commentaries on all high risk areas are provided in Appendix A.
- 3.3 The previous position reported to forum in March was £0.424m below budget, a movement of £0.065m when compared to the position in January. The main changes are an increase in High Needs Top ups following banding adjustments, plus costs for new tri-partite funded (with Children Social Care and Health) External Placements and an increase in pressure in the Tuition Service for pupils that are not funded. These additional costs are offset by a reduction in the Post 16 High Need Provision, a decrease in External Placement fees for a placement that did not begin before year end and . There was a significant decrease in the number of early year pupils following the Early Years census and a reduction in the expenditure on 30 hours Implementation.
- 3.4 Following the outturn position of £0.359m the value of the unallocated DSG balances is now £0.568m.

### **Members of the Schools Forum are now asked to:**

- **Note that the final outturn position (subject to external audit) on the 2016-17 retained budget is £0.359m below budget**
- **Note that following the out-turn position the unallocated DSG balance will increase to £0.568m**

## 4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 There are no proposals included within this report.

## 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.

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## 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 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 actual expenditure to date